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USIA PAMPHLET 'MISINFORMATION' ON PERSHING II'S

WA251415 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 29, 24-31 Jul 83 (Signed to Press 12 Jul 83) p 5

[Article by Nikolay Portugalov in "Viewpoint" column: "Charles Wick's 'Threepenny' Misinformation"]

[Text] THE FACTORS OF THE EUROPEAN SITUATION

The following irrefutable factors at present determine the developments connected with nuclear arms in Europe and, above all, with medium-range weapons.

1. The Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe have been turned into fiction by the Americans. The Americans continue to insist on the "zero" and "interim-zero" options that are unacceptable for the USSR; they refuse to consider the fair, logical and impeccable proposals by the Soviet side, which are the acme of concessions compatible with its own security, and they do not hide the fact that their delegation in Geneva is simply "serving time". And to calm the West European public down, the Americans daily feed them the fable that only by the deployment this December of the first Pershing-2 missiles in the FRG and of cruise missiles in Sicily will the intractable Russians, who "like only firmness and force," be pressured to start negotiating in all seriousness. But before that there is nothing to expect in Geneva, if only due to the lack of time.

2. The preparations for the deployment of new US missiles in Europe are in the last stage. The positions were chosen a long time ago, the equipping of the launching pads is being completed and the communications are being put through the last checkups.

3. The antimissile movement in Western Europe and, above all, in the FRG, which the USA has turned into the main proving ground for the "nuclear complementary armament" of NATO, is steadily growing, and nearing its peak. The majority of the West German population (from 60 to 70 per cent, according to public opinion polls) is against the deployment of the new US missiles. The SDPG - the main force in the parliamentary opposition - is now reconsidering its stand in security policy. Most analysts declare that at the forthcoming party congress, to be held in early November, the West German Social Democrats will speak out against the implementation of the "two-track decision". And the struggle against nuclear complementary armament is also one of the main policy-making ideas of the other opposition party - the Greens.

West German trade unions, preparing for a "hot nuclear autumn", are discussing forms and methods of struggle against the deployment of Pershing-2 missiles, not excluding the possibility of a nationwide strike. The two main churches in the FRG - the Evangelical and the Catholic - are supporting the protesters against complementary armament: the former does so unconditionally and the latter, to an ever increasing degree. Even the Bundeswehr officers are beginning to doubt the expediency of Pershing-2 deployment. West German lawyers, who were traditionally regarded as supporters of the country's conservative forces, today openly say that the "two-track decision" is incompatible with the FRG constitution.

The members of the supreme judicial bodies in the FRG are speaking out in favour of holding a nationwide referendum on "nuclear complementary armament" and declare that the lodging of a complaint with the constitutional court on the "two-track decision" is being quite realistic.

A PILGRIM THE OTHER WAY AROUND

The West German leadership finds itself in a very embarrassing situation - on the one hand, it pledges its "Nibelungen loyalty" to Washington and threatens to attack the peaceful, but unprecedented in scope, antimissile marches this autumn, both with mobile police and border guards and even with troops (true, without the use of firearms; this is the prerogative of the US sentries and sentinel units). On the other hand, however, the leaders of the ruling right-centrist coalition in Bonn cannot but realize that if they achieve the deployment of the new US missiles against the will of the majority of the population at such a high price, they might undermine the "inner political concensus" within the country, i.e., the consent, in principle, of both the people and the powers that be, and also the position of West Germany within the Western system of alliances, above all, within NATO.

Therefore, official Bonn, while expecting a stormy autumn, launched the "summer" propaganda campaign in support of the "two-track decision". However, this time the "big brother" from across the Atlantic came to the rescue at once, for, as everybody knows, "the Americans can do everything better than anyone else".

That was how US Vice-President Bush came to be delegated for another tour of Europe. Having arrived in the FRG, he immediately went to Krefeld, where the famous antimissile appeal, which millions of West Germans have already signed, came into being three years ago. In this city, which has become a symbol for West German peace fighters, Bush took part in the celebration of the 300th anniversary of departure from the city of the first German settlers to America. The new "pilgrim" arrived the other way around and started to laud "nuclear complementary armament".

Alas, history repeated itself to a certain extent - the first Drefeld residents in America - who were apparently Quakers and Mennonites, i.e., 17th-century pacifists - started to clash with Red Indians, and the US Vice-President, who is far removed from pacifism, as soon as he started to sing paeans to Pershings, was pelted with rotten eggs by Krefeldian "urban Indians," as the conservative press sometimes arrogantly calls the antimissile marchers.

The much offended Bush had hardly left West Germany when the FRG authorities started to set up, in different areas in the country, the "trusteeships" of USA-FRG friendships. Their members, mainly local conservative politicans and officers, were given the task of propagandizing "nuclear complementary armament" as the most concrete expression of this unbreakable friendship. They pin great hopes in their laborious activities on the new propaganda "hit" sent from America - a slim glossy pamphlet, translated into German - Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces: Questions and Answers, published for Europe by the US Information Agency (USIA), headed by Charles Z. Wick.

NICE QUESTIONS

This time Wick and his authors have thought up something really unusual, but, as we'll see further on, something which may prove quite risky for themselves: the questions in the pamphlet are borrowed from the arsenal of arguments used by the West European antimissile movement. Therefore, as far as questions are concerned, the pamphlet is a success. Let us cite some of them:

"But aren't these (American and NATO-N.P.) doctrines of deterrence and strategic linkage (between the USA and Europe) just part of an endless arms race that only increases the likelihood that nuclear weapons will be used one day?"

"But isn't the United States determined to proceed with the installation of Pershing-2 and cruise missiles regardless of progress in the negotiations?"

"You talk as though the Soviets haven't made any proposals at all...? In December 1982 General Secretary Andropov announced that the Soviet Union was prepared to reduce its INF missiles to 162 - the number of nuclear missiles that they say Britain and France possess - if NATO foregoes INF deployment. That seems reasonable."

"On May 3rd, General Secretary Andropov said that Moscow would agree to 'an appropriate equality between the Soviet Union and NATO in regard to medium-range delivery vehicles, that is missiles and aircraft, and in the number of warheads carried by them.' Isn't this more than acceptable to the West?"

"But those British and French missiles are real; why does the United States refuse to take from them into account?"

"The Soviet Union earlier announced a moratorium on further deployments of intermediate-range missiles. Why hasn't the United States responded positively to this initiative?"

"Many claim that an essential balance in intermediate-range nuclear systems already exists, and that deployment of Pershing-2 and ground-launched cruise missiles is designed to give NATO military superiority. But when the Soviets say that a balance exists, they are talking about more than just missiles."

"Haven't the Soviets repeatedly protested that Pershing-2 missiles, because of their speed and accuracy, constitute a destabilizing weapons system that could hit targets in the Soviet Union with virtually no warning time?"

And, lastly:

"Isn't the unstated purpose behind INF modernization to enable the United States to confine a nuclear conflict with the Soviet Union to Europe, while ensuring that the American continent remains safe on the sidelines?"

Good questions - all of them. They already contain the answers! But the USIA, of course has its own answers to all these questions, which, as the Americans arrogantly suppose, will make mincemeat of the arguments used by West European opponents of the "two-track decision".

LYING ANSWERS

But then these are familiar arguments which are as trite as they are false. However, it is quite in place to cite some of them as an example of the most base "threepenny" misinformation.

"The projected installation of land-based Pershing-2 and cruise missiles provides a real, not rhetorical, incentive to the Soviet Union to negotiate significant arms reductions..." Such an argument is now fashionable in the West. But one should not harbour illusions! As Yuriy Andropov noted in his talk with Helmut Kohl, the FRG Federal Chancellor, this proposition "is a deep and dangerous delusion. If things go as far as deployment, we, rather than conceding our positions or weakening our defences, will take timely and effective reply measures to protect the security of the USSR and its allies".

This is not a threat, but merely stating what would be inevitable, because the Soviet side will have no other way left to restore the disrupted balance.

How brazen one must be to describe the deployment of the Pershing-2 missiles in the FRG as an "incentive to negotiate"!

Further on, after declaring that the USA has not set preconditions in Geneva, the pamphlet's authors, without stopping for breath, cite at once the notorious "five" criteria - the five points of diktat, each one of which is quite sufficient to torpedo the Geneva talks. For example, the sentence "no weakening of NATO's conventional deterrent forces" hides the categorical refusal to count medium-range aircraft (some 700 of them!) under the pretext that aircraft of the relevant types theoretically can carry not only nuclear but conventional weapons as well. This is a mockery of common sense!

Much coverage is also given in the pamphlet to the defence of the US so-called global approach to the problem of medium-range missiles, which should "prevent the transfer of SS-20s between Soviet Asia and the western regions of the USSR". The Soviet side, too, could very well demand to count all the US aircraft carriers with their nuclear bombers which are so easily transferred "between any point in the World Ocean and the Mediterranean". And just imagine how hypocritical it is to refer to the security of US allies in Asia, where the Americans do not need land-based medium-range missiles (MRMs), because it is so easy to deploy hundreds of sea-based cruise missiles, using Japanese ports.

Realizing that it is no longer possible to compromise in the eyes of the West Europeans the clear-cut nature and fairness of the Soviet demand in Geneva that the British and French capabilities be counted, the pamphlet tediously reiterates the same old allegations about Soviet claims to monopoly in a certain class of weapons and to the maintenance of "nuclear forces equivalent to those of all other potential adversaries". But not a word is said about the fact that the West has such a monopoly in Europe on sea-based MRMs (British and French), and the 162 Soviet SS-20s would only act as a balance for the relevant NATO forces in that region. So what do "nuclear forces" in general have to do with this? And the USA has a tangible advantage in warheads over all the other nuclear powers put together.

The doubtless fact that nuclear complementary armament is designed to give NATO military superiority is being said to be simply "nonsense" (some argument, that!). The unilateral moratorium on the deployment of the SS-20 missiles in the European part of the country which the USSR abides by is being declared with unequalled impudence to be a "fraud" and at the same time the authors declare with a gambler's imperturbability that while demanding the inclusion of the US medium-range aircraft into the balance formula, the Russians "omit thousands of comparable Soviet aircraft".

The matter is, however, that the aircraft are not comparable, because the Americans blatantly include into the medium-range category (from 1,000 to 5,000 km) well-nigh the entire Soviet tactical air force which does not have such a range.

And, of course, the pamphlet's authors go out of their way trying to prove that the 572 US missiles in Western Europe will not become an additional first-strike capability for the USA and NATO, and that Europe is, supposedly, not threatened with being turned into a theatre for limited nuclear war. These are vain attempts! The dozens, if not hundreds, of statements made by highly placed US politicians, to say nothing of generals, on "limited" or "protracted" nuclear war in various points of the globe are too fresh in the Europeans' memory and none of the latest peace-making speeches coming from the White House can erase those memories.

REVELATIONS OF ORLANDO 'SENTINEL'

The authors of the pamphlet declare that Pershing-2 missiles cannot reach Moscow "and pose no significant danger to Soviet military command and communications systems, or to their strategic forces". And as for the cruise missiles - they "fly at subsonic speeds comparable to jet aircraft". As for the extremely reduced warning time for the USSR, the authors pose a rhetorical question: "How much warning time would Bonn or Brussels or Lisbon or Paris or Milan have from an SS-20?"

This is another gambler's trick. In keeping with the Soviet proposals, the limited and equal number of medium-range missiles and warheads deployed by the sides in Europe would have posed no threat at all regarding a first strike for them, to say nothing of the fact that not a single Soviet medium-range system can reach the territory of the USA, the leading NATO power. The Pershing-2 missiles, which are designed to fly 2,500 km and are capable of reaching Moscow, combined with the slow-flying but highly invulnerable cruise missiles, are intended only for delivering the first strike. The Pershing-2 missiles are to "decapitate" the enemy (using US terminology and US plans) in a few minutes' time, after which the cruise missiles will finish the job with impunity, smashing the enemy's strategic forces that threaten to retaliate against the USA. Washington couldn't care less about what happens to Western Europe after that.

However, the USIA people laboured in vain: the thin pamphlet will not make West Europeans believe in the expediency of "nuclear complementary armament". Its blatant lies and false rhetoric will probably urge those who haven't yet decided the question of how to approach the planned deployment in their countries of the new US missiles, to start thinking about its most dangerous consequences.

But then such people can start doing this without the US propaganda-mongers' opus intended for dissemination in Western Europe. Der Spiegel, the Hamburg weekly, recently reprinted, and not without a shudder, some quotes from the May issues of the newspaper Sentinel, published in Orlando, a city in Florida and the seat of the US Martin Marietta military concern which is now producing the first Pershing-2 missiles.

The tabloid writes that only schizophrenics would bother to conduct talks with liars on arms control! And it declares that the only good Communists are dead Communists. The tabloid even criticizes the NATO "two-track decision" from the right, calling it a schizophrenic paper which gives those scaredy-cat Europeans the right to veto the military programmes which the Pentagon regards to be necessary. In particular, says the Orlando Sentinel, the Pershing programme in Europe was put at the mercy of ignoramuses in military affairs and the mob in the streets.

Horrific, isn't it? But quite frank and, as distinct from the pamphlet produced by Wick's agency, it offers an idea of the real state of mind of propaganda-mongers from the US military-industrial complex.

PRAVDA CITES SPD'S SCHEER ON FRG ARMS POLICY

PM251122 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jul 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Weighty Arguments"]

[Text] Bonn, 23 Jul -- H. Scheer, a Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] Bundestag deputy, has exposed the groundlessness of the U.S. refusal to take British and French medium-range nuclear missile systems into account at the Geneva talks. In an article published in the SPD press bulletin, he stresses that consideration of those systems is a crucial factor for success in the Geneva talks. In this context he condemns the FRG Government for having taken the path of unconditional support for the unconstructive U.S. stance.

The FRG government, H. Scheer writes, has been trying for several months now to reject the demand that those weapons be taken into account. In so doing it has been using bankrupt and empty arguments by means of which it constantly deludes the German public. The following businesslike arguments support the premise that the French and British systems by taken into account:

1. The British and French systems are medium-range missiles. That has never been denied even in the West. As far back as the FRG Government's 1979 defense white paper, these missiles have been naturally cited as a counterweight to the Soviet Union's medium-range missiles. This was the case in the FRG Government's 1981 brochure, too, with its arguments in favor of the NATO "two-track decision." It was only when the demand was made that those missiles should be taken into account in connection with possible decisions at the talks that the FRG Government suddenly rechristened them "strategic" systems.

2. Consideration of those systems was a theme of the SALT II talks. At that time it emerged that there should be specific consideration within the framework of the SALT III talks which, it was envisaged, would be held after the SALT II treaty had been concluded. According to the NATO "two-track decision," it was planned to hold talks on medium-range missiles within the SALT III framework. There can be no doubt that these weapons must be taken into account either at the strategic arms limitation and reduction talks or at the medium-range arms talks. FRG Chancellor Kohl and Foreign Minister Genscher have repeatedly stated in public that the British and French missiles have already been taken into account at the SALT II talks. But that assertion is false.

3. Britain and France constantly state that their nuclear missiles are a "component of a single Western system of deterrence." That is in clear contradiction with the comments that their missiles cannot be included in the NATO potential on the grounds that they serve the aim of deterrence on the national scale alone.

4. It is stated that the British and French weapons are just the two countries' "last resort" nuclear defense. If that is intended to mean that unlike those weapons, the U.S. missiles in Western Europe do not have a strategic significance as a "last resort," that is an indirect acknowledgement of their purpose as weapons for waging nuclear war which it proposes to use at a quite early stage of combat operations. But if the U.S. medium-range weapons in Europe are not a "last resort," that in itself is the most important reason for refusing to deploy them under any circumstances.

5. France and Britain are equipping their medium-range nuclear potentials with considerably more than 1,000 warheads: that is at least 10 times more than their present potential. Thus by the late eighties, they will probably achieve a potential which far exceeds the bounds of the current Soviet SS-20 missiles' potential. Consequently the British and French must not be "forgotten" as FRG Chancellor Kohl constantly says with such ease.

6. France and Britain took direct part in the adoption of NATO's "two-track decision." Britain is a fully-fledged NATO member and a country where new U.S. medium-range missiles are to be deployed. The French nuclear deterrence potential is coordinated with NATO requirements and France remains a NATO member and, like the other NATO members, has a vote in the NATO Council in the event of the threat of war.

7. NATO's "two-track decision" arose in connection with the Eurostrategic balance. Thus the talks cannot primarily or exclusively speak of balance between the United States and the Soviet Union in the medium-range arms sphere. Such was the aim of NATO's "two-track decision." Without any doubt, France and Britain belong to Europe.

8. To say that the demand that the British and French missiles be taken into account will split NATO is a lie. On the contrary: Not to take those weapons into account splits NATO since France and Britain are claiming a special role in connection with which the FRG will bear the entire military and psychological burden and the entire risk, too, after the deployment of the U.S. medium-range missiles.

9. The demand that these weapons be taken into account is not being put forward in the FRG simply because that is what the Soviet Union is also demanding. This demand is being made because it is reasonable, necessary, logical, and consistent on the level of European nuclear arms control. The SPD made that demand as far back as the resolution of its April 1982 party congress in Munich, a resolution approved, in particular, by Helmut Schmidt, then federal chancellor. It has been demanded, in addition, by Paul Warnke, former leader of the U.S. delegation at the SALT II talks, by American Senator Edward Kennedy, and by Brzezinski, former chief of the U.S. National Security Council.

10. In conclusion, one should recall the statement made just a few weeks ago by former French President Giscard d'Estaing that President Mitterrand should not be surprised that the Soviet Union is demanding that these weapons be taken into account. Mitterrand himself virtually provoked that demand by his vigorous action in favor of the deployment of the U.S. medium-range weapons.

WEST URGED TO ADOPT WARSAW PACT MBFR PROPOSAL

PM251209 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jul 83 First Edition p 5

[Boris Orekhov "Commentator's Column": "The Ball Is in the West's Court"]

[Text] Vienna -- A routine recess has been called in the Redoutensaal in Vienna's Hofburg Palace. The 30th round of the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe has ended. Alas, at the next meeting at the end of September, the participants in the talks will be marking their 10th "jubilee."

It cannot be said, of course, that the past years have been entirely fruitless. The mutual understanding of the sides' positions has improved to a certain degree. But that is scarcely enough for 10 years of talks. With good reason, the participants in the meeting of socialist community countries' leading party and state figures held recently in Moscow expressed alarm at the lack of progress at the Vienna talks.

As they set off on vacation, the Western participants in the talks will be taking in their briefcases the text of an all-embracing draft "Agreement on the Mutual Reduction of Armed Forces and Armaments and Related Measures in Central Europe" submitted by the socialist countries on June 23 this year. Once again the Western delegates had "insufficient time" to evaluate it on its merits or even to express their official opinion on it. After all, the socialist states' initiative is of fundamental significance. The draft agreement is based on a new approach which opens up a simple and most expedient way under prevailing conditions for achieving the agreed aim of the talks -- the establishment of equal collective ceilings of numbers of NATO and Warsaw Pact armed forces at a reduced level of 900,000 men, including 700,000 ground forces, for each side. And that is irrespective of disputes or differences in assessing their present number which, through the Western side's fault, has become the main stumbling block at the talks.

The socialist states' proposals also contain a specific scheme of practical actions for advancing the talks toward a real result. There is nothing surprising, therefore, in the interest that the socialist states' proposals have aroused among the journalists reporting the course of the Vienna talks; whereas the distinctive "conspiracy of silence" chosen by Western delegations as their reaction to the socialist countries' proposals is causing clear bewilderment among observers.

Now, when a 2-month recess has been called at the Vienna talks, the hope is being expressed there that the Western side will use that recess to constructively study the socialist states' proposals and to formulate a stance which will not only block the talks but will also be aimed at achieving positive and practical results.

Moscow Statement Reviewed

AU221052 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 18 Jul 83 p 7

[Spartak Beglov APN article 'Specially for ZYCIE WARSZAWY': "Disarmament: Will the West Say Yes?"]

[Text] Shortly before FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl's departure for the Soviet Union, the West German Government gave favorable expression to the Moscow statement issued by the seven leaders of socialist states, saying that this statement has created a climate conducive to Soviet-FRG negotiations. The socialist countries' proposal to commence nuclear disarmament is addressed to all Western countries equally. If Bonn accepts these proposals as constructive ones, then the remaining NATO members will be forced to recognize that the socialist countries have done everything in order to stop the arms race.

Let us take another look at the Moscow statement.

First -- the statement recognizes the existing balance of forces and expresses readiness to retain this balance as a base on which to halt the arms race. In other words, neither Moscow nor its partners are concerned with the financing and production of new types of nuclear weapons. This has been said clearly, and in addition so many times that it is surprising how the West can remain deaf to all appeals.

The second part of the Moscow statement stems from the first -- it is a plan to generally freeze nuclear weapons and military budgets. Because the West is constantly rejecting the plan to freeze armaments, it would seem that Washington, even though it agrees to negotiations, wants to play for time, conceal the step forward in armaments it has planned for the present, and gain definite superiority.

The third part of the abovementioned statement contains the following categorical declaration: Any attempts whatsoever to gain superiority over the Warsaw Pact states are straightaway doomed to failure. This should dispel all illusions as to the possibilities of upsetting the balance of forces.

In the light of this statement, the pitfall posed by the MX and Pershing missiles on the road to disarmament stands out particularly clearly. Under the pretext of a zero option -- "the need to force Moscow to make concessions in Geneva" -- these missiles are commencing a new round of armaments. The Moscow statement contains the demand that both sides renounce the possibility of a victorious nuclear war and a preventive nuclear strike. The Soviet Union has committed itself not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. The socialist countries have once more called on all remaining states possessing nuclear weapons to commit themselves not to use them. The statement by the socialist countries concerning the disarmament process can be summarized as follows: a) unanimity concerning the need to prevent nuclear war which would be disastrous for mankind and the commitment not to be the first to carry out a nuclear strike; b) recognition of the existing balance of forces as the basis on which to reduce armaments; c) giving up the arms race and freezing current nuclear arsenals and military budgets; and d) conducting negotiations based on an equality between partners and on equal security as essential conditions necessary to reduce armaments.

How will the West behave? Will it lose yet another chance? These questions arise in the speeches of political observers and during politicians' meetings in Geneva, Moscow, and other places. If the West rejects the socialist countries' proposal once more, then the view will be confirmed that Washington and NATO, unlike Moscow and the Warsaw Pact, cannot be satisfied with the balance of forces which is the basis for disarmament.

Will the members of NATO take the risk of unmasking their own aims at a time when their nations are awaiting practical activities aimed at renouncing the next stage in the arms race? The Moscow statement by the "seven" leaves no doubt that any attempt whatsoever to deploy new American missiles will cause serious changes to the political and military situation, not only at regional level but on a world scale as well. It would be equally wrong to think that the new missiles will force the Soviet Union to make concessions which would upset the balance of forces which has been achieved through so much work. There is only one way out: Negotiations must be held to ensure that the balance of forces is maintained at the lowest possible level, in order to finally lead to nuclear disarmament in Europe.

In Moscow, an appeal has been made to soberly and objectively solve the current danger and reach the appropriate conclusions. Now it is the West's turn to speak.

U.S., USSR START DELEGATIONS MEET 26 JUL

LD261022 Moscow TASS in English 1017 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Text] Geneva July 26 TASS -- The delegations of the USSR and the United States to the negotiations on limitation and reduction of strategic armaments held a plenary meeting here today.

U.S. BINARY WEAPONS POLICY ON 'DANGEROUS COURSE'

PM251021 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jul 83 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Dangerous Course"]

[Text] It has already been reported that the U.S. Senate, yielding to pressure from the administration, has approved by a one-vote majority the allocation of $130.6 million in fiscal 1984 for the program to produce a new type of chemical weapons -- binary ammunition.

For over 2 years the U.S. Administration has been trying to persuade the legislators to grant these funds. Nevertheless, last June the House of Representatives voted by a majority against the allocations for binary weapons. During the Senate vote, the votes were split equally: 49 senators voted for the program and 49 against it. U.S. Vice President G. Bush then rushed to help, since under the U.S. Constitution he is chairman of the Senate and has the casting vote in the event of a tie vote.

The U.S. propaganda also declares that the production of binary weapons is supposedly necessary for the United States so as to force the Soviet Union to undertake the complete banning of chemical weapons. Every single word of this is a lie. After all, during the bilateral Soviet-U.S. talks which were held between 1976 and 1980 the USSR repeatedly proposed that agreement should be reached not only on banning chemical weapons but also on destroying all stockpiles of such weapons. These talks were broken off unilaterally by the United States.

The Soviet Union looks upon the banning and liquidation of chemical weapons as being one of the foremost tasks in the disarmament sphere and is persistently striving for the soonest drafting of the appropriate international convention. It is in favor of stepping up the talks being held on this question at the Geneva Disarmament Committee. Specific proposals submitted by the Soviet Union during the past year are also aimed at the same goal.

At the second special UN General Assembly session on disarmament our country submitted the draft "Basic Principles of a Convention to Ban the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Chemical Weapons and to Destroy Such Weapons," which envisages the liquidation of facilities for the production of chemical weapons, as well as a number of measures to ensure the effectiveness of the future convention.

The adoption of such a convention would be an important addition to the 1925 Geneva Protocol banning the use of chemical bacteriological weapons.

The situation which has now developed around the question of banning chemical weapons cannot but be perturbing. The reason for this is the line of the U.S. Administration which refuses to resume bilateral talks with the USSR and also tries to brush aside the proposals that Europe be rid of chemical weapons. As regards the Disarmament Committee talks, the words of U.S. spokesman about the importance of these talks and the "great interest" which Washington allegedly shows in them blatantly diverge from the positions of the U.S. delegation in Geneva and the practical deeds of the U.S. Administration.

ZAGLADIN ON ANTIWAR STRUGGLE, COMMUNISTS' ROLE

PM251327 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jul 83 First Edition pp 4-5

[V. Zagladin article: "Communists and the Antiwar Struggle"]

[Text] I

Great attention to problems of international politics in organically inherent in communists. Why?

First, because the communist movement from its inception, since the times of K. Marx and F. Engels, has been developing as a truly international movement. It is natural that the struggle for a just, democratic international policy has always constituted "part of the general struggle for the liberation of the working class" (K. Marx and F. Engels: Works, Vol XVI p 11). Communists have always opposed class and national oppression and the foreign policy of the exploiter class, particularly in such a bestial form as war. It was no coincidence that the Decree on Peace, which V.I. Lenin drew up, was one of the first decrees of Soviet power.

Second, communists cannot fail to take account of the fact that the process of the internationalization of social life naturally leads to an increase in the significance of the external conditions of the class, revolutionary struggle. Nowadays it is quite impossible to correctly calculate moves in the class struggle without taking account of the international aspect of the matter, the correlation of forces between socialism and imperialism on a world scale, and the changing trends in the world situation.

Third and finally, the growth in the attention of communists toward international questions -- growth which is especially noticeable today -- is conditioned by the nature of the international situation which has taken shape in the seventies and the early eighties. It is a question of the exacerbation of tension and the intensification of confrontation, which have been provoked by imperialism's aggressive forces, primarily by the United States, and have caused the threat of thermonuclear war to increase.

Of course, the interest in international problems has increased during these years not only among communists. Nevertheless, despite all the breadth of the forces which come out today against confrontation and for peace, a special role undoubtedly belongs to communists. Participation in the antiwar movement is of vital concern to communists.

Of course, not everyone likes the active involvement of communists in the antiwar struggle. Imperialist forces generally would like to channel this movement in an anticommunist and, above all, an anti-Soviet direction. But just such an approach is capable of substantially weakening this movement by disorienting its members and sending them along a false trail, for it is not socialism, but imperialism and the aggressive U.S. and NATO circles that generate the threat of war.

Sometimes, when you speak about this, you encounter remarks expressing irritation: Why, people say, do you give preference to one part of the antiwar front? Does this not reveal a desire to place communists, as it were, above all other antiwar forces and to turn them into some quantity which wishes to push other fighters against the danger of war into the background or, God forbid, to command them?

Nothing of the kind! The special, really outstanding role of communists in the struggle for peace is a circumstance of an objective nature stemming from the very essence of the communist movement. Socialism, communism, and peace are indivisible.

The formulation of the question of the communists role certainly does not signify a desire to push anyone into the background or to command anyone.

The communist movement is flesh of the working class' flesh. It is natural that for this very reason communists cannot fail to be the most active and consistent fighters against war, for no one suffers more from wars than the working class and the working masses. "The burden of war," the resolution of the Second Congress of the First International stated long ago, "lies chiefly on the working class, not only depriving it of the means to exist, but also compelling it to shed its blood." ("The Struggle for Peace. Documents of Three Internationals," Moscow, 1967, p 21) This is confirmed by the experience of world history.

Nowadays, at the end of the 20th century, the working class and working people suffer even before the start of war. The all-embracing preparations for war being made by imperialist forces are swallowing up an ever greater proportion of national resources and lay a heavy burden on the working people's shoulders. The militarization of the economy is accompanied by an offensive against the working people's civil rights. Are not communists called upon, by virtue of these very circumstances, to mount very vigorous activity in the struggle against the arms race? This is their direct duty. This is what the fraternal parties believe.

Finally, it is the aim of the working class and, accordingly, of communists, to implement fundamental socioeconomic transformations and liquidate the very social roots which give rise to exploitation, oppression, and predatory wars. It is natural that communists were and still are the most consistent and purposeful fighters against war.

"The threat of nuclear war hanging over the world prompts us to reassess the chief purport of the activity of the entire communist movement," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov pointed out at the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum. "Communists have always been fighters against oppression and man's exploitation by man, and today they are also struggling or the preservation of human civilization and for man's right to life."

II

In mounting the struggle for the preservation of peace, communist parties proceed from the premise that the struggle is of a general democratic nature. Here communists realize that it is precisely the aggressive, militarist policy that reflects the very essence of modern imperialism in the most naked form and is the most graphic expression of the present deepening of the general crisis of a capitalism as a system. Since this is so, the struggle against imperialism's aggressive policy is now objectively one of the most important forms of the class struggle in the international arena. As the joint communique of the CPSU and Portuguese Communist Party delegations points out, "The struggle in defense of peace is inseparable from the struggle for freedom, national independence, social progress, socialism, and communism."

Communists defined their principled line with regard to imperialism's present aggressive policy as soon as its manifestations became quite obvious.

Starting at the end of the seventies, the fraternal communist parties in all countries and regions of the world launched an active campaign, above all, to counter the aggressive imperialist policy. The socialist countries' communist and workers parties play an exceptionally active role in resolving this task.

Acting in defense of peace, the CPSU and the socialist community countries' other fraternal parties follow their proven course.

This course provides for the strengthening of the socialist countries' economic and defense might, a firm rebuff to imperialism where necessary, and a quest for a mutually acceptable solutions to existing problems at the negotiating table with countries of the opposite social system.

During the period since the end of the seventies and the beginning of the eighties, the CPSU and the socialist countries' other fraternal parties have put forward a whole series of important peace initiatives which have embraced the chief problems of world politics and proposed a constructive solution, starting, of course, with the problem of preventing war and ending the arms race. The decisions of the Political Consultative Committee's Prague conference and then of the Moscow meeting of leading party and state figures of seven socialist countries elicited a broad political response.

The fraternal parties of nonsocialist states set themselves the same aims in the struggle for peace and disarmament as the communists of socialist countries. Of course, the forms of their activity differ substantially from the actions of communists in socialist countries. In capitalist countries, particularly in the NATO countries, it is primarily a question of mobilizing the working class and the broad masses of working people to oppose the aggressive plans of imperialism, American imperialism above all.

A characteristic feature of the antiwar activity of communist parties in the nonsocialist world is the close linkage of the struggle to prevent war with work directed against the consequences of the economic crisis, which is being exacerbaged by preparations for war and by the arms race. This is precisely how the question is posed by the communist parties of the United States, Germany, France, Britain, Belgium, Japan, and other capitalist countries.

At the same time communists regard the struggle against war and the arms race as a very important constituent part of the struggle for the peoples' national independence and to overcome the economic backwardness of former colonial and dependent countries. This is how the question is posed by the communists of India, Lebanon, El Salvador, Reunion, Guadeloupe, Martinique, and others.

III

In recent years the communist party of each country has displayed considerable activity both as a national and as a regional and international political force. This has been reflected in numerous bilateral and multilateral meetings of fraternal parties. In this context one should mention, above all, the now regular meetings of leaders of the socialist community countries' fraternal parties and the conferences of the secretaries of these countries' fraternal parties on international and ideological questions. The widely developed regional cooperation between the fraternal parties of countries in the near East and Latin America should also be pointed out.

In recent years there have also been a number of meetings of communist and workers parties on an international scale. There was, for example, the international theoretical conference in Sofia in June 1982 devoted to the birth centennial of G. Dimitrov, and the international scientific conference in Berlin in connection with the 165th anniversary of the birth and the centennial of the death of Karl Marx.

The struggle for peace and disarmament is invariably the central issue at these meetings. At the same time the scale and nature of the danger of war are such that it is essential both to intensify efforts and to further broaden cooperation among communists of all countries in the struggle for the preservation of peace -- with, of course, essential regard for national conditions and interests.

Of special significance now is, on the one hand, more profound understanding by communists of their own role and responsibility as the most consistent antiwar force and, on the other, fuller regard for the realization that what is needed to prevent war and end the arms race is international cooperation among all (not just a few individual) detachments of peace-loving forces, primarily communists. Unfortunately, in some instances there is still underestimation of either the first or the second circumstance. It is to be hoped that this underestimation will be overcome.

The peace initiatives of the communist movement elicit understanding and a response from broad and diverse circles of peace-loving forces. Of course, this certainly does not mean that, as certain Western politicians say, the present antiwar movement is a "branch" of the communist movement or is its creation.

The antiwar movement of our day is largely spontaneous and is unprecedented in its mass character and breadth of composition. Nevertheless, the communists' initiatives and the slogans of this general democratic movement coincide to a great extent. This coincidence is easily explained -- it concerns the manifestation of a common, fervent interest in preventing war.

As the 12 July 1983 joint statement by the CPSU and French Communist Party delegations says, the fact that there are differences in the appraisal of the situation and of the cause of the increase in world tension "cannot and must not ever be a barrier to joint action by the broadest social, political, and public forces in the struggle for world peace."

Certain problems do emerge in the course of the communists' struggle for peace and against imperialism's aggressive policy. They relate primarily to a certain unevenness [neravnomernost] in the development of the fraternal parties' activeness. Tardiness in developing the antiwar struggle has been observed in some quarters.

Furthermore, the class enemy's ideological and propaganda maneuvers have not been given the proper rebuff in all cases. It has succeeded, for example, in instilling in a certain section of the masses the idea that it is not only imperialism but socialism too that is to blame for the present increase in tension. In some places such views have even penetrated communist works.

Finally, in some cases a certain weakness has been noted in internationalist solidarity, primarily with the peoples of Poland and Afghanistan, but also Ethiopia, Angola, and El Salvador.

"Objective scientific analysis of the essence of disagreements, when they emerge on particular questions between individual socialist countries or indeed between certain fraternal parties in the world communist movement, and the search for ways of overcoming them on a Marxist-Leninist basis, by strengthening the communists' cohesion, is undoubtedly one of the important tasks for the parties on the international plane," Comrade Yu. V. Andropov observed at the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum.

It goes without saying that Marxist-Leninist analysis must always be specific. But detailed examination of the sources of the existing disagreements is simply impossible here. So let us limit ourselves to some more general considerations. First of all, the source of the difficulties emerging in the way of the antiwar struggle is imperialism and its anticommunist campaigns. The influence of the social milieu in which communists exist and act cannot be ignored -- and that includes the influence of petit bourgeois views and outlooks. Thus, although angered and scared by imperialism's "extremes," the petit bourgeois mass is by no means ready to accept the fundamental tenents of proletarian internationalism which are too "rigid" for it, or to agree to the need for effective internationalist solidarity.

Finally, in a number of cases the absence of the proper political experience, and sometimes even of the necessary theoretical tempering, particularly among people who have grown up during a period of relative economic upturn and of relatively mild class struggle, has had its effect. Of course, we must not make light of the problems and difficulties that have been noted, nor, undoubtedly, must we exaggerate them.

Indeed, the course of events shows convincingly that, first, on the main questions of the anti-imperialist struggle the fraternal parties' positions are indentical or close; differences are manifested in this sphere to only the smallest degree. Second, the very experience of political life, debate, and discussion can remove some of these differences in views. And third, the predominant trend is undoubtedly a pull toward cohesion in the communist movement, for the sake of rebuffing imperialism and activating the antiwar struggle.

Despite the class ememy's growing resistance and despite all the objective and subjective obstacles, the communist movement's antiwar struggle is developing successfully. We can say without hesiation that the advantage -- and it is considerable -- lies increasingly with the peace-loving forces. Imperialism has not succeeded and will not succeed in shaking the correlation of forces either on the military-strategic or on the political plane. This is a reliable source for optimism and faith in the future, the reliable guarantee of success in the struggle by the communists and the broad people's masses to prevent war.

CEMA AGRICULTURE COMMISSION ON COOPERATION MEETS

PM251150 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 8 Jul 83 p 3

[Report by Yu. Volosov, executive secretary of the Soviet part of the CEMA Permament Commission on Cooperation in Agriculture: "Developing Cooperation"]

[Excerpts] The 58th session of the CEMA Permament Commission on Cooperation in Agriculture was held recently in Ulaanbaatar. It was attended by delegations from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the USSR, Czechoslovakia, and also Yugoslavia. Representatives from the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen were present as observers.

The commission examined progress in the implementation of cooperation measures aimed at accelerating and improving the efficiency of the development of agriculture in the SRV, Cuba, and Mongolia. On the basis of general agreements, interested countries have signed bilateral treaties and have embarked on their implementation. Positive results have been achieved in a number of areas of scientific and technical cooperation with the SRV and Cuba. Successes have been achieved in Mongolia in the creation of new state farms with irrigation systems ensuring feed supplies in the northern part of the Gobi zone and the opening up of virgin lands in the Halhin Gol area. The session participants stressed that the Soviet Union is giving the necessary assistance to Vietnam, Cuba, and Mongolia in the construction of agricultural facilities, the supply of machinery and equipment, the implementation of land reclamation work, the elaboration and implementation of veterinary measures, and training of cadres. A decision was taken on joint measures to save raw materials, supplies, fuel, and energy; on the extended utilization of secondary resources in agriculture; and in a number of other areas.

The delegation leaders exchanged experience of the development of direct ties between scientific research institutions and production enterprises in the fraternal countries for the purpose of accelerating the introduction of the results of scientific developments into production.

MALTA SAID SERVING ANTI-CSCE AGREEMENT FORCES

LD240211 Moscow TASS in English 2244 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] Madrid July 24 TASS -- As has been reported, as far back as on July 15 thirty-four out of 35 participants in the Madrid meeting reached agreement on the text of its final document. One delegation, however, -- that of Malta -- up to now continues to block the adoption of a final document notwithstanding repeated addresses and calls by other participants in the meeting. The Maltese delegation took up the same attitude at two extraordinary plenary sessions that took place on Saturday, July 23.

The opinion is widespread in the journalistic circles and in the lobby of the Madrid meeting that the present stand of Malta wittingly or unwittingly serves the interests of those forces which would like to undermine what has been achieved at the Madrid meeting and to create artificial obstacles to the normal development of the Helsinki process, of which the Madrid meeting is an important element. Everyone here would like to expect that Malta will display the necessary sense of political and state responsibility so as to remove the last obstacle on the way to successful completion of the Madrid meeting without delay.

PRAVDA CITES WORLD MEDIA ON ANDROPOV SPEECH

PM251133 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jul 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Consistent, Principled Stance"]

[Excerpt] 21 Jul -- The international public and foreign mass media are commenting extensively on the Soviet-Hungarian talks and the speeches exchanged at the Kremlin dinner by Comrades Yu.V. Andropov and J. Kadar. The commentaries stress that the socialist countries are displaying a consistent and principled line in the struggle to preserve and strengthen peace, and that the program of action they have put forward is aimed at easing international tension and averting the threat of war and is a real alternative to the imperialist course of confrontation.

Relations between Hungary and the Soviet Union, and between the MSZMP and the CPSU, the Hungarian newspaper NEPSZABADSAG writes, are built on the unfading principles of Marxism-Leninism and internationalism. We have common interests and goals. As Comrade Yu.V. Andropov stressed, it is the socialist countries which are the main bulwark of peace. They act as the bearers of Lenin's ideas of peaceful coexistence and equal cooperation between all states and the consolidation of the peoples' security, and they advocate preserving civilization on earth itself from the increased threat of nuclear annihilation.

The implementation of the package of measures proposed by the socialist countries, the newspaper continues, would avert the nuclear threat and open up an opportunity for decisively normalizing international relations and eradicating from them dangerous distrust and suspicion.

Yu.V. Andropov, the Czechoslovak newspaper RUDE PRAVO notes, has stated that Washington does not want honest, fair talks, and does not conceal the fact that it has resolved to disrupt the military equilibrium and surge ahead in the military field, assuring itself the dominant position in the world. At the same time the Soviet stance at the talks on strategic weapons and nuclear armaments in Europe is pervaded by the desire to find mutually acceptable decisions on a substantial reduction in nuclear confrontation on the basis of considering realities, equality, and identical security.

Cuban television describes Yu.V. Andropov's speech as a terse, but at the same time profound, analysis of the present world situation and the reasons for the aggravation of international tension.

Its commentary notes that the Soviet leader again firmly stated the socialist countries' loyalty to the policy of peace and detente and their monolithic unity in the struggle against the aggressive militarist designs of Washington and its NATO allies.

Moscow, THE WASHINGTON POST notes, believes that an agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union on nuclear missiles is possible if Washington renounces its present stance. The Soviet leader stressed that if the United States and NATO can finally assess the situation soberly and renounce their one-sided and hopeless approach toward talks -- an approach built on the desire to obtain unlateral disarmament from the Soviet Union -- then success at the talks will be possible.

UPI reports that Yu.V. Andropov has assessed the choice of the overwhelming majority of countries at the Madrid meeting in favor of finding mutually acceptable decisions as a healthy one. At the same time the Soviet leader stated most firmly that the deployment of the new U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe is unacceptable to the USSR. He stressed that this deployment would inevitably lead to military and political consequences which would substantially complicate the entire world situation.

Yu.V. Andropov, UPI continues, noted that the United States is deliberately misleading people by trying to persuade them that the buildup of U.S. stragegic arms and the deployment of the Pershing and cruise missiles in West Europe will lead to headway at the current talks.

The Soviet leader noted the great importance of the socialist community countries' recent proposals and initiatives aimed at preserving peace, REUTER notes. At the same time he accused the United States and its NATO allies of trying to seek unilateral disarmament from the USSR.

UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION SCHEDULE PREVIEWED

LD192220 Moscow TASS in English 2209 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] New York July 19 TASS -- A summary of the agenda of the forthcoming session of the UN General Assembly, which will open in New York on September 20, has been released by the UN Secretariat. Key issues on the agenda include the curbing of the nuclear arms race, a freeze on nuclear arsenals, removal of the threat of military catastrophe, peaceful settlement of international disputes, and other major problems of our time.

A considerable part of the issues of the agenda related to disarmament are based on the initiatives tabled by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, including the prohibition of the development and production of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons, the ending of all nuclear weapons tests, the non-emplacement of these weapons in those countries which do not have them at the moment, and the convocation of a world disarmament conference.

U.S.-SOVIET WHEAT TALKS BEGIN IN VIENNA

AU260750 Vienna ORF Teletext in German 0715 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Vienna -- Two days of negotiations between the USA and the USSR on wheat deliveries get underway in the capital today under conditions of strict secrecy.

In the talks the USA would like to have the USSR take more wheat. As has been learned from the Soviet side, if the USSR does take more then it would want to have a guarantee that the USA will not employ the wheat deliveries as a political weapon.

The current contracts expire on 30 September.

U.S. CONDUCTS FIRST TEST OF LASER WEAPON

LD260946 Moscow TASS in English 0928 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Washington July 26 TASS -- The United States has taken yet another extremely dangerous step along the lines of spiraling up the arms race.

U.S. news agencies report that the U.S. Air Force carried out the first test of a laser weapon yesterday. Five air-to-air missiles "Sidewinder" were destroyed over the test range at China Lake (California) by a laser installation which was on board a "C-135" aircraft. The U.S. Air Force command has said in a special statement that the successful testing of the installation is a big landmark in the programme to develop laser weapons.

OVCHINNIKOV DERIDES REAGAN'S 'PREACHER' ROLE

LD230428 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2235 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow, 23 Jul (TASS) -- Among the multitude of roles the current President of the United States has played it is evident that the one that is most to his taste is the role of preacher, writes PRAVDA political observer Vsevolod Ovchinnikov in notes entitled "The Preacher From the White House." He made his latest appearance in this role in the White House on 19 July. Reagan chose as the starting point for his discourse the words of the biblical prophet Isaiah: "Heal the brokenhearted, preach deliverance to the captive."

One must admit that this saying sounds extremely topical. And the President hit the nail on the head, as the saying goes. Yet, to use his own words, "Americans understand well the truth of these words," since millions of brokenhearted and captives live among them. In point of fact, continues the political observer, can one, citing Isaiah, be silent about the 11 million unemployed in one's own country? Can one, talking hysterically about the brokenhearted and the captives, give arms and one's blessing to the executioners of the Palestinian people? Can one shed tears over the imaginary adversities of the Vietnamese and Kampucheans, as if it were not from the White House that orders were sent to the American interventionists to murder them with bombs and burn them with napalm?

The sermon at the White House, the author writes, was timed to make the so-called "Week of Enslaved Countries," countries that Washington does not care for precisely because they are an example of true freedom and democracy. The ringleader of today's "crusaders" once again went on about the "iron curtain" and then began a discourse about Eastern Europe, treating it as though it were a concept outside of political realities and state borders. In this area you have Hungary and Czechoslovakia and the Ukraine and the Soviet Baltic republics that, judging by his words, the U.S. President does not intend to recognize as such.

If the master of the White House really is going to indulge in oratory, he would do better to choose other subjects for this. After all, he is the head of a state that, together with the socialist countries of Europe, signed the Helsinki Final Act, which contains a solemn commitment to respect the right of peoples to manage their own destinies, Vsevolod Ovchinnikov stresses.

KONDRASHEV ASSESSES U.S. CENTRAL AMERICA POLICY

PM221550 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Stanislav Kondrashov, "Political Observer's Opinion": "Secrets That Are Common Knowledge"]

[Text] It can be said that many people in Washington are opposed to the Nicaraguan revolution. Thus it is no wonder that the measures taken there to mark the fourth anniversary of its victory are far from congratulatory. On 19 July, right on the day of the Nicaraguan holiday, the U.S. House of Representatives sat in secret session (a rare event). The agenda included a report by the Select Committee on Intelligence and a discussion of the question of whether to continue financing attempts to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government. The CIA's aid to the counterrevolutionaries is also considered secret, although it has been common knowledge for a long time.

How do you like this illustration of U.S. democracy: Elected representatives of one people deliberating what to do with another people.

President Reagan himself spoke on 18 July in Hollywood. And although it was in Hollywood, Florida, his speech was fully in line with the spirit of the famous Hollywood that is in California. The U.S. President presented himself as a zealous supporter of the Nicaraguan revolution, but of the "real one," not the one that emerged victorious 4 years ago.

At this point it would be expedient to recall what the 20th century has meant for the Nicaraguans. For a quarter of a century Nicaragua was occupied by North American soldiers; and after that, for almost half a century, the hated Somoza family occupied their own country. No objections to the tyrannical regime or calls for "real" revolution were heard from Reagan's predecessors in the White House. And today the most conservative U.S. President in the last half-century confers upon the surviving followers of the tyrant, who are attacking Nicaragua from Honduras, the title of revolutionaries.

If political success were to be determined by demagoguery alone, the Washington administration would have nothing to worry about. But the unexpected concentration of measures devoted to Nicaragua and the entire problem of Latin America indicates straightaway that there is growing concern. Despite the feverish activity launched immediately after Reagan moved into the White House, the U.S. people have simply refused to believe that their "freedom" is threatened by a small country whose population is almost one-hundredth and whose area one-sixtieth that of the United States. Opinion polls, including the latest ones, prove that the majority are firmly opposed to U.S. interference in Nicaragua.

There are similar strong feelings in Congress, especially in the House of Representatives. All in all, the lack of public support for the shamelessly bellicose policy in Central America is clearly felt.

Of course, Washington's interventionism generates an even greater reaction of displeasure in Latin America. Refusing to follow the lead of the North American prompters, people there are becoming more clearly aware of the roots and nature of the Nicaraguan revolution, just as they are becoming clearly aware of the source of real danger to the countries south of the Rio Grande. Recently the "Contadora group" members -- the presidents of Venezuela, Colombia, Mexico and Panama -- met in the Mexican city of Cancun. The declaration they adopted sets out a number of measures for the political settlement of Central American problems and gives a firm warning: "The use of force as an alternative solution to the conflict will only worsen the situation in the region."

Speaking on behalf of Nicaragua's leadership before 200,000 people at a meeting in Leone, Daniel Ortega assessed the proposals of the "Contadora Group" as positive. In his turn he also put forth a number of initiatives. They include: putting an end to military confrontation in Central America and in particular the immediate conclusion of a nonaggression treaty between Honduras and Nicaragua; putting a complete stop to arms deliveries to the combatants in El Salvador; giving up military support for any antigovernment forces in the region; and so on. These are important initiatives charting specific and realistic ways out of the crisis situation.

And how did Washington respond? By sending a second aircraft carrier group to the coast of Nicaragua. By announcing that major U.S.-Honduran military maneuvers will take place in August near the border with Nicaragua. According to Managua's data, up to 12,000 counterrevolutionaries are already operating against Nicaragua from Honduran territory. But people in the White House and the Pentagon consider that the pressure is insufficient.

The press recently published a secret report by a special interdepartmental group written for the 8 July session of the U.S. National Security Council. Alas, its evaluations and recommendations disclose no new secrets. "The situation in Central America is approaching a critical stage" -- this is the report's conclusion. And its recommendations? They are aimed not at a political but a military solution. It is recommended to continue and step up subversive activity against Nicaragua. It is also recommended, in fiscal 1984, to increase military aid to El Salvador from $86 million to $120-140 million, to Honduras from $41 million to $55-56 million, to Guatemala from $10 million to $18-20 million, and to Costa Rica from $2.2 million to $7-9 million.

Against this background, the U.S. President also announced the setting up of a so-called "National Commission on Central America." Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, who for a long time has been yearning for a prominent official or semiofficial position, has been appointed head of the commission.

The White House stresses the bipartisan character of the commission and this brings to mind another presidential commission, the Brent Scowcroft commission on strategic arms, as well as the approach of 1984 and its election campaign. The Scowcroft commission was set up last November, when the House of Representatives rejected the administration's request for initial funds for MX missiles. Following the recommendations submitted by the commission, Congress last May approved these funds. Now people on Capitol Hill are frustrating Reagan's Central America policy, and he would like to win and salvage it with help from a new "bipartisan" commission.

In addition, Reagan would like to transform this commission into a kind of political lightning rod. It is supposed to divert from him the criticism of Democratic contenders for the White House.

"An already bankrupt policy is now being presented in new packaging" is how Senator C. Dodd described the meaning of Reagan's maneuver. Observer T. Wicker called it "underpinning the foundations of an unpopular policy."

New packaging cannot change the nature of, and foundations cannot be firm beneath, a policy which is increasingly often described as bankrupt or unpopular.

'ESPIONAGE INSTRUCTIONS' IN DEMOCRACY PROJECT

LD240549 Moscow TASS in English 0526 GMT 24 Jul 83

["Behind the Smokescreen of 'Democracy'" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow July 24 TASS -- The U.S. Congress has started examining the "democracy project" programme paper, Tomas Kolesnichenko, the commentator of the newspaper PRAVDA writes. The "project" is based on the notorious speech delivered by the U.S. President in the British Parliament in 1982, in which President Reagan announced a "crusade" against communism. Now they on the Capitol Hill are trying to outline a specific plan for implementing these "ideas" and elevating them to the level of state policy.

Noteworthy is the global scope of the new programme for ideological expansionism of U.S. imperialism. As the newspaper WASHINGTON TIMES points out, actually the whole world has been taken under Washington's propaganda sights.

The propaganda arsenal of the "crusaders" is primitive and hackneyed, the commentator points out. It included a "classical" set: from holding anti-communist assemblages and lectures down to subversive actions and direct interference in the affairs of other states.

The document, the newspaper points out, contains direct espionage instructions to Americans of European and Asian extraction having linguistic abilities, a sufficient cultural level and personal connections, who could appear initiators of some or other programmes.

It must be frankly said that the "democracy project," which had been announced with so much pomp, is in for an unenviable fate. It is sure to get where such products of hapless opponents of Marxism are invariable thrown out -- into the dust-heap of history, Kolesnickenko stresses in conclusion.

GORBACHEV CONFERS WITH CANADIAN POLITICIAN

PM241411 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jul 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk at CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] On 20 July M.S. Gorbachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received the eminent Canadian politician and public figure W. Gordon.

During the talk, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, there was an exchange of opinions on several international problems, primarily the problem of averting the nuclear threat to mankind, and on questions of bilateral Soviet-Canadian relations.

The talk was attended by V.V. Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, and G. Pearson, Canadian ambassador to the USSR.

CANADA 'YIELDS' TO U.S. ON MISSILE TESTS

LD241337 Moscow TASS in English 1307 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 24 TASS -- By giving consent to the American missile tests, the Canadian Government has thus yielded to pressure of the United States, was led by Washington's mendacious and dangerous propaganda, the claims that only a nuclear arms build-up can ensure security, the newspaper IZVESTIYA writes. It is apt to recall, the newspaper stresses, that at the present time too Canada serves as a proving ground for the tests of different types of American weapons, for example radar equipment for the same cruise missiles. But the question of the tests of these missiles has occupied a central place in the country's political life throughout recent months. "By yielding to Washington's demands, the Canadian Government has thus openly disregarded the country's public opinion which resolutely opposed such a step."

The article says that a comparatively short time ago, the major Canadian bourgeois newspaper GLOBE AND MAIL testified that in the course of the public opinion poll in Canada, more than a half of its population declared against such tests. The storm of indignation and protests mounting in Canada over the Government's decision indicates that THE GLOBE AND MAIL was right in its calculations. Protest demonstrations were held in Toronto and Halifax, Regina and Saskatoon as well as other cities of Canada.

The statement issued by the Canadian Communist Central Committee says tha the consent of the government to American cruise missile tests turns Canada into an accomplice of the preparations carried out by the United States for launching the first strike in a nuclear war against the Soviet Union with all the ensuing consequences.

The real way to peace, the newspaper IZVESTIYA points out, lies through a nuclear weapons freeze, through disarmament based on equality and equal security. "By its consent to American missile tests in Alberta Province, Ottawa has shown that it does not see or does not wish to see that way."

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION VISITS DPRK

PM200701 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation's Departure"]

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by A.S. Barkauskas, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, left Moscow for Pyongyang 17 July on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the DPRK Supreme National Assembly. The delegation includes USSR Supreme Soviet deputies K.V. Lebedev, N.N. Polozov, and Yu.T. Pochechuyev.

Kangwon Province Visit

PM251350 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Delegation Visit"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 22 Jul -- The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation, headed by A.S. Barkauskas, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is on a friendly visit to the DPRK, has visited Kangwon Province. Addressing a reception in honor of the Soviet delegation, Choe Pok-Yon, chairman of the Provincial People's Committee, said that the delegation's visit will be a major contribution to the strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the two countries' people. Our countries' peoples, he continued, are linked by ties of friendship in the joint struggle against imperialism, and the relations of friendship and cooperation between them are steadily developing.

Today, Choe Pok-Yon stressed, the Soviet people are achieving big successes in all spheres of the national economy. The Korean people regard the fraternal Soviet people's achievements as their own and wish them new successes in meeting the targets of the 11th 5-year plan.

Making a reply speech, USSR Supreme Soviet Deputy K.V. Lebedev, deputy head of the delegation, said that the cordial meetings with the inhabitants of Kangwon Province were further graphic evidence of the fraternal friendship between our parties, countries, and peoples. He wished the Korean people new successes in socialist building, in the struggle for the withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea, and for the unification of the motherland on a peaceful, democratic basis.

USSR'S USTINOV GREETS MONGOLIAN COUNTERPART

PM251405 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Jul 83 First Edition p 1

[Text] To Mongolian Defense Minister Colonel General Comrade J. Yondon:

Esteemed Comrade Minister:

On the occasion of the 62d anniversary of the Mongolian People's revolution I send to you and to all the Mongolian troops fraternal greetings and hearty congratulations on behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and on my own account.

The 1921 people's revolution played an outstanding part in Mongolia's historical destiny and paved the way for a bright future.

Currently the Mongolian people are working successfully to fulfill the tasks set by the 18th MPRP Congress to ensure the further development of the country's economy and culture and improve the people's material well-being.

On the fraternal Mongolian people's national holiday I wish you, comrade minister, and the entire personnel of the Mongolian People's Army great new successes in strengthening socialist Mongolia's defense capability.

With communist greetings,

Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Ustinov, USSR minister of defense

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA VIEWS U.S. FAR EAST ACTIVITIES

PM251140 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Jul 83 First Edition p 3

[Colonel D. Belskiy "Military-Political Commentary": "Steering a Course of Nuclear Adventurism"]

[Text] The shadow of the U.S. "nuclear umbrella" is spreading ever more widely across the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Asia. Modernized equipment with long-range cruise missiles, including some with nuclear warheads, and the U.S. Seventh Fleet battleship "New Jersey" have been added to the nuclear facilities already existing in the region. According to the Pentagon's plan, the "New Jersey" is to be an important component of a missile-armed Seventh Fleet surface strike force being assembled there and part of its first echelon.

Long-range cruise missiles will be a substantial addition to U.S. strategic offensive forces in the Far East. As the Japanese newspaper AKAHATA wrote, within the next 5 years the Pentagon plans to have more than 400 such missiles, one-third of them with nuclear warheads, on ships cruising off the Japanese islands. It is planned to equip other Seventh Fleet ships along the lines of the "New Jersey" with cruise missiles and to keep them permanently in the west Pacific. After 1984 U.S. Navy nuclear submarines operating in the region are also to be fitted with nuclear cruise missiles.

The U.S. military leadership is also considering the possibility of deploying on Japanese and South Korean territory long-range land-based cruise missiles by 1986, which could keep the USSR's Maritime Kary and the Far Eastern La Perouse, Isugaru, and Korea Straits in their sights. It is known, moreover, that by 1985 two squadrons of F-16 bombers -- around 50 aircraft -- carrying nuclear weapons designed to hit targets on the Soviet Union's territory will be deployed in Japan, at the Misawa base.

U.S. aircraft carriers accommodating around 300 aircraft armed with nuclear weapons and with ranges of 1,000 km and more are a vital component of the U.S. "nuclear umbrella" in the Pacific. One aircraft carrier -- the "Midway" -- has long since made the Japanese port of Tokosuka its home port. Now, after a 15-year break, a U.S. Navy strike force headed by the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier "Enterprise" has called in at another Japanese port -- Sasebo. Together with the brand-new aircraft carrier the "Carl Vinson," it seems that it is to be firmly based in Japanese waters. As the newspaper NIHON KEIZAI wrote, the Japanese port of Sasebo is being turned into a U.S. naval complex for the purpose of conducting "flexible operations" in the Sea of Japan. This port is also to be the base for other mobile U.S. troop formations in permanent readiness to block straits and carry out assaults in parts of the Soviet Far East.

Under U.S. plans for a buildup of a strike force in the western Pacific, the Seventh Fleet is to make increasingly wide use of Japanese territory.

Whereas hitherto some 40-50 U.S. warships per year, including around 10 nuclear submarines, have called at Japanese naval bases and ports, in the near future, according to a Japanese press report, the frequency and duration of their visits are to increase still further.

The Pentagon is pursuing a policy of steadily and extremely substantially building up U.S. forward-based nuclear facilities in the Far East. U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger has called this policy "a new method of flexibly deploying" U.S. strategic forces in East Asia and the Pacific. As the facts show, this kind of terminology masks a dangerous intensification of militarist preparations and Weinberger's "new method" is merely a dangerous destabilization of the military-strategic situation in this part of the world, which has already been the arena of aggressive actions by Washington twice since World War II.

U.S. military preparations in the Far East are being carried out under cover of the mythical "Soviet military threat." The propaganda hysteria on this account has recently acquired fresh impetus. While striving at all costs to deploy Pershing II and cruise missiles in Europe, Washington is at the same time harping on about "the arms buildup by the Soviet Union in its Far Eastern regions" in an attempt to disguise its own plans to deploy its nuclear missile arms in the Far East by means of lies and deceit. Here the indisputable fact that many hundreds of U.S. medium-range nuclear devices are already trained on the USSR in the Far East and the Pacific is passed over in silence.

U.S. attempts to achieve military superiority over the USSR in the Far East region are as futile as they are in other regions. The Soviet Union will be able to safeguard its security, including its security in the Far East. It is, however, opposed to an arms buildup, especially a nuclear arms buildup.

The peace initiatives launched by the USSR, especially the proposals on confidence-building measures in the Far East, serve the interests of ensuring a stable military-political situation and easing tension in the Far East and Pacific region. With goodwill on the part of all the other countries involved, their implementation could mark a beginning of a halt in the arms race and a reduction in the level of military confrontation in this vast region, with which the destiny of many hundreds of millions of people is bound up.

PRAVDA REPORTS DRA'S IMPROVING FOREIGN TRADE

PM250928 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jul 83 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by own correspondent V. Baykov: "Despite the Blockade"]

[Text] Kabul, 21 Jul -- Despite the economic and trade blockade which the United States is attempting to organize around revolutionary Afghanistan, the DRA's business relations with its foreign partners are developing successfully. In the 5 years which have elapsed since the April Revolution, the volume of the DRA's trade with the capitalist and developing countries has doubled.

Virtually all the industrially developed capitalist countries are DRA trading partners. The biggest is Japan. As of this year the volume of trade between the two countries had risen by one-third in comparison with the first year after the revolution. The FRG ranks second. British businessmen are displaying great interest in traditional Afghan export goods -- carpets, Persian lamb, and handicrafts. Last year Afghan exports to Britain doubled in comparison with 1978.

Afghan-Indian relations are developing successfully. That is borne out in particular by the bilateral agreement concluded in Delhi recently which provides not only for the further growth of trade, but also for Indian assistance to Afghanistan in training medical personnel and constructing medical institutions.

"The undeclared war launched by the United States against the Afghan people is doomed to failure, as are U.S. attempts to encircle our country with an economic blockade," the newspaper HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR writes.

This year the volume of foreign trade is expected to increase a further 7 percent. With the other developing and nonaligned countries Afghanistan is seeking to restructure international economic relations on the basis of the democratic principles of equality and mutual advantage, and opposes the discriminatory "sanctions" which the United States is trying to use against states inconvenient to it.

USSR GOVERNMENT CONGRATULATES NEPALESE PREMIER

PM242023 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Gratitude for Greetings"]

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers has sent Nepalese Prime Minister L.B. Chand a telegram containing congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of his appointment to that office.

In a reply telegram L.B. Chand expressed sincere gratitude for the greetings.

The telegrams express confidence that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Nepal will continue to strengthen for the benefit of peoples in both countries.

USSR, INDIA SIGN MEDICAL, HEALTH PROTOCOL

BK221410 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] India and the Soviet Union have signed a protocol for collaboration in medical and health services. The health secretary, Mr S.S. Sidhu, who led the Indian delegation at the talks, signed the document in Moscow today. The protocol envisages exchange of specialists, scientific papers, and organization of seminars.

AUSTRALIA 'TARGET' FOR USSR NUCLEAR ATTACK

LD251203 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0919 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Sydney, July 25 (TANJUG) -- In the event of a nuclear war, Australia would no doubt be one of the targets of the Soviet nuclear attack, special advisor for national security questions in the Soviet party Central Committee Stanislav Menshikov has stated on Australian Television.

Menshikov said that not only U.S. bases would be destroyed in the political [as received] attack but also facilities not connected with them, such as ports in which U.S. nuclear war ships are docking.

The Soviet Union, however, has no interest in threatening Australia nor should Australia in any way feel endangered by Moscow, the Soviet official said.

The question of U.S. military bases has been in the focus of interest of the Australian public since the Labour government's decision to re-examine Australia's obligations within the ANZUS pact, whose members are also New Zealand and the United States.

PRAVDA CITES VNA ON PRC SHELLING, INCURSIONS

LD251427 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jul 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "VNA Statement"]

[Text] Hanoi, 23 Jul -- The VNA news agency has issued details of hostile actions by the Chinese side on the Vietnamese-Chinese border in the period 1-15 July. In the above period the Chinese side shelled areas of the border provinces of Hoong Lien San, (Khatuen), Cao Bans, and Quang Ninh with various kinds of weapons and made armed incursions into SRV territory. Chinese warships repeatedly invaded SRV territorial waters near the fishing port of Mon Cay.

As a result of these actions by the Chinese side there have been casualties among the civilian population in the SRV's border regions and material damage has been caused.

The Armed Forces and the local population repulsed the violators, the agency notes.

USSR-SRV CONSULTATIONS HELD IN MOSCOW 18-20 JUL

PM242115 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Unattributed report under general heading "At the USSR Foreign Ministry"]

[Text] Consultations between the USSR and SRV Foreign Ministries were held 18-20 July in Moscow, during which questions of bilateral relations and some international problems of mutual interest were discussed.

Taking part in the talks, which were held in a warm comradely atmosphere, were: on the Soviet side -- USSR deputy foreign ministers M. S. Kapitsa and V. G. Komplektov; on the Vietnamese side -- SRV Minister Vo Dong Giang and SRV Ambassador to the USSR Dinh Nho Liem.

INDOCHINA CONFERENCE ENDS; COMMUNIQUE CITED

PM251500 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jul 83 First Edition p 5

[Article by Boris Barakhta under general heading "Our Commentaries": "Goodwill"]

[Text] The seventh conference of the foreign ministers of the three fraternal countries of Indochina -- Vietnam, Laos, and the PRK -- has ended in Phnom Penh, capital of the PRK. These regular meetings have become a tradition. During them views are exchanged in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding on pressing contemporary issues, first and foremost Southeast Asia's problems.

The fraternal countries of Indochina uphold a principled and constructive policy, tested in the course of mutual consultations, aimed at establishing in the region an atmosphere of peace, stability, and goodneighborliness. With the help of the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries, and thanks to the support of all people of goodwill, as was pointed out in a joint communique, Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea have come through the most difficult period in their development and are looking confidently ahead.

Evidence of this is the tangible progress in economic building and towards the creation of a new society in Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea. To mark the sixth anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between Laos and Vietnam the conference participants noted its substantial contribution to the cause of strengthening the three countries of Indochina and promoting peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

As everywhere in the world, the peoples of the three fraternal countries of Indochina dream of peaceful skies, undisturbed creative labor, and a bright future. The participants in the Phnom Penh conference therefore stated their determination to contribute to the struggle against the threat of war and expressed full support for the peace initiatives of the land of the soviets and the other Warsaw Pact member-states and the provisions of the joint statement of the Moscow meeting of the socialist community countries' party and state leaders.

The situation in Southeast Asia remains unstable. Provocations continued to be mounted by the surviving Pol Potites, who were kicked out of Kampuchea. As the communique points out, the situation remains tense on Vietnam's northern borders.

Seeking a genuine normalization of the situation in the region, the fraternal countries of Indochina are showing goodwill and restraint. New initiatives were also unveiled during the present Phnom Penh meeting of the foreign ministers of Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea. Hanoi, Vientiane, and Phnom Penh are willing to engage in a dialogue with the states involved without preconditions, in a spirit of good-neighborliness and respect for the principles of peaceful coexistence and with due consideration for mutual security.

The door remains open for talks on establishing an atmosphere of peace and good-neighborliness in the region. All that is needed is a show of goodwill and a response to the proposals of the three countries of Indochina.

HUNGARIAN-SOVIET TALKS, COMMUNIQUE PRAISED

PM251314 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jul 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Unity of Views and Aims"]

[Excerpt] The foreign mass media see the results of the talks in Moscow with a Hungarian party and government delegation, and the speeches delivered by Comrades Yu. V. Andropov and J. Kadar at a dinner in the Great Kremlin Palace, as giving renewed impetus to the continued development and deepening of all-round fraternal relations between the USSR and Hungary -- relations which accord with the vital interests of the Soviet and Hungarian people. Commenting on the joint Soviet-Hungarian communique, the press stresses that the Soviet-Hungarian summit is convincing evidence of the socialist countries' consistent and principled line in the struggle to banish the threat of a nuclear war, curb the arms race, put the world back on the path of political and military detente, counter imperialism's aggressive and antipopular policy, and to implement the program for improving the international political climate put forward by the allied socialist states.

NEPSZABADSAG carries an editorial on the results of the Soviet-Hungarian talks under the heading "Milestone on Our Common Path." The Hungarian party and government delegation, the newspaper writes, did good work in the Soviet Union, and the talks it had will yield concrete results. The results of the talks, which were held in a spirit of complete mutual understanding, reaffirmed the unity of views and aims of the MSZMP and the CPSU and of the two countries' governments. The accords reached will serve to further strengthen relations between the USSR and Hungary -- relations which fully accord with the vital interests of the Soviet and Hungarian peoples.

In an article entitled "Fraternal Exchange of Experience" Hungary's NEPSZAVA points out that the Hungarian delegation's visit to the Soviet Union was "extremely successful and accorded both with our common aims and with Hungary's national interests." In the course of the talks the mutual desire to further strengthen the friendship of the two countries' peoples and to do everything possible to consolidate their fraternal alliance, founded on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, was reaffirmed.

"Mutual Trust and a Unity of Views," was how MAGYAR NEMZET summed up the joint communique. The Hungarian delegation's visit, the Hungarian weekly (ORZAG-VILAG) writes, ushers in a new phase of outstanding importance in relations between the USSR and Hungary. The Hungarian people hold regard the results of the Soviet-Hungarian talks which open up broad prospects for the future.

The results of the talks are an impressive demonstration of fraternal similarity and collaboration in the name of the great ideals of socialism, progress, and peace, the BCP Central Committee organ RABOTNICHESKO DELO writes. The intensive dialogue on a wide range of questions relating to the current state and the prospects of bilateral relations, and to the most pressing problems of the international situation, was imbued with a spirit of optimism and faith in the creative foundation on which all the fraternal socialist countries build their foreign policy and their relations with one another.

Poland's TRYBUNA LUDU calls the results of the Moscow talks "an important contribution to the cause of defending peace and detente."

The Soviet-Hungarian summit, Mongolia's UNEN writes, graphically demonstrated the two fraternal countries' firm resolve to continue the consistent struggle to preserve and consolidate the international peace and security of the planet's peoples and to prevent the threat of a thermonuclear catastrophe.

The leaders of the USSR and Hungary, the newspaper continues, expressed serious concern at the continuing deterioration in the world situation as a result of the buildup of militarist preparations by the United States and a number of other NATO countries intent on upsetting the military equilibrium in Europe and globally to their advantage at any cost.

RADIO DDR broadcast an ADN report pointing out that "the Soviet Union and Hungary have reaffirmed their determination to continue to help consolidate the Warsaw Pact member-states' unity. They will consistently step up their efforts to implement the program to improve the international political climate put forward by the socialist states."

MSZMP'S HAVASI OUTLINES HUNGARY'S ECONOMIC TASKS

PM221101 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jul 83 First Edition p 4

[Article by Ferenc Havasi, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee: "With a Sense of Responsibility"]

[Text] Budapest, July -- The MSZMP consistently implements measures designed to ensure a balanced national economy. In December 1978 a reassessment of the priorities of economic policy was made at our party's Central Committee Plenum, as a result of which Hungary's economic building in the years ahead will serve primarily to improve correlations in both our foreign and our internal economic relations. The need to reduce the excess of imports over exports and to reduce and subsequently halt the increase in indebtedness, especially in trade with those countries with which transactions are not conducted in rubles, was pointed out.

The solution of these tasks, confirmed and developed by the 12th MSZMP Congress, necessitated changes in the production and distribution sphere, in the practice of economic policy and management, and placed more rigorous demands on economic activity. In view of the increased complexity of conditions on the world market, the plenum envisaged using the years of a temporary, enforced, slower quantitative increase in production in order to improve the structure of industry and agriculture, increase efficiency, and reinforce qualitative factors for growth in order to create the prerequisites for subsequent dynamic development.

Looking back on the years which have elapsed since that plenum, we can see that they were not easy. For objective reasons Hungary's losses in foreign trade turnover are so great (the correlation between export and import prices has worsened for us by about 20 percent as from 1973-1974) that our commitments regarding debts and other payments, which we intend to fully meet, can only be covered (even despite the increase secured in production efficiency) by reducing internal consumption. Since preserving our present living standard is our main aim, in order to achieve such a reduction we have no option but to reduce the proportion of accumulation and ensure more economical management.

The experience of recent years has proved the correctness of the policy that has been formulated. This was also confirmed by our party Central Committee's recent plenum, which took stock of the work done during the period since the 12th MSZMP Congress. The Hungarian national economy is developing in the direction of the aims formulated by the party, although the growth rate has been somewhat slower than planned. Nevertheless, national income has increased approximately 5 percent in the last 2 years. At the same time internal consumption has decreased by 2-3 percent, thus enabling exports to be increased. Non-ruble exports have increased by around 15 percent in the last 3 years. This is a considerable achievement, especially considering the protracted crisis in the capitalist economy and intensification of discrimination against goods from socialist countries.

Though surplus [dopolnitelnaya] value has increased by 5.3 percent in production in the last 2 years, the total volume of imports has not increased. The considerable deficit in our foreign trade balance with the capitalist countries has been wiped out. We have managed to gradually reduce the growth rate of foreign indebtedness: It has remained virtually static since 1979. A surplus of more than $500 million was achieved in trade transacted in dollars last year. Hungary is honoring all its debts.

Better use in now being made of power and raw materials. Whereas power consumption rose by 3.7 percent a year in the 1975-1979 period, it fell by almost 1 percent in 1980-1982. As a result of the rationalization of power consumption and its adaptation to the limited scope for imports, approximately 2 million fewer tons of oil were used in 1982 than in 1978.

Industrial production has risen by 5 percent in 2 years. Increased differentiation has been apparent compared with the preceding period: Whereas production in some subsectors has fallen by 2-3 percent, it has increased by 5-6 percent in others. The differences in rates have been greater still. Among the dynamically developing subsectors are instrument making and the production of communications equipment -- that is, those employing skilled labor.

Labor productivity in industry has increased by more than 10 percent in the last 3 years and the number of people in employment has fallen.

In the 2 years since the party congress agricultural production has increased by 7.3 percent. Grain harvests have increased: Hungary now produces 1.4 tons of grain per capita. The country is now a world leader in per capita meat production.

This year an increasing proportion of industrial production will serve to improve the foreign trade balance. The scope for selling output on world markets and financial conditions continue to deteriorate, so only those enterprises which are able to rapidly increase the volume of exports or to establish efficient production of products previously imported from capitalist countries can count on substantial development.

To all intents and purposes we have achieved the set aim of maintaining the people's existing standard of living. The population's consumption has increased by 4 percent, yet real wages have remained at the previous level. The practice of creating stricter conditions for the receipt of income has proved correct and successful: For the same money people now have to work harder and produce more competitive goods.

Improving the lot of people with the smallest pensions, newlyweds' living conditions, and caring for those most in need of assistance from society remain an invariable element in our social policy.

This year, in order to continue to maintain a stable living standard, we are continuing to selectively reduce capital investment in the production and nonproduction spheres and we are halting the growth of reserves. In the production sphere we are simultaneously accelerating structural transformations and raising the technical level.

We see our future in accelerating the changeover to intensive development, in modernization, and in improving output profitability and exportability, as well as in deepening our participation in the international division of labor and, above all, in deepening cooperation with the socialist countries.

Our vital interests require that everything possible be done to strengthen ties with the Soviet Union -- our main political and economic partner.

During the current 5-year plan mutual trade between our two countries is expected to top R33 billion in 1981 prices and will increase nearly 50 percent over the past 5-year plan. Approximately one-third of it is being conducted with the framework of the specialization and coproduction program. Cooperation between us should continue to expand on all fronts. What is more, it should not only expand but also, as was recently said at the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum, its quality and efficiency should improve. Economic integration must be put on a higher plane and it must become deeper, reliably ensuring the strengthening of our economies.

As a member of the socialist community, Hungary is strengthening and will continue to strengthen ties with its allies. Cooperation within the CEMA framework will continue to play a stabilizing role in the country's economic development. The discriminatory measures being taken by the capitalist countries are damaging the normal course of the development of international economic ties. They cannot, however, halt the socialist community's advance because the fraternal countries have a mighty potential.

We can continue to count on each other's willingness to render international assistance and to draw strength from bilateral and multilateral cooperation within the CEMA framework.

Our vital interests demand that the process of deepening fraternal economic cooperation be accelerated and that fuller use be made of mutual experience. Together with the other CEMA countries, we are working to harmonize economic policy and to improve ways and means of cooperating. We actively advocate the systematic exchange of information and experience, the expansion of direct ties between enterprises and scientific research institutes, and the formulation and introduction of new regulations with a view to strengthening contract discipline in deliveries.

Eliminating weak links in transport and freighting operations and developing border stations, seaports, and other transport capacities are important tasks. We are striving to jointly solve the tasks of supplying the community with raw materials and power and increasing the quantity and range of consumer goods.

In preparation for the summit conference of countries belonging to CEMA, convened at the CPSU Central Committee's intiative, we have sumitted a number of proposals aimed at improving CEMA's activity.

The process of intensifying our economy has begun and is gathering momentum. The modernization of the structure of industry and agriculture is under way. Capital investment is being concentrated on improving and modernizing means of production and in the spheres ensuring an improvement in output quality and competitiveness. We have started to implement important new programs like the development of microelectronics, the rationalization of the power industry, the expansion of the feed protein base, and the economic use of raw materials and their waste.

Consistently improving the economic mangement system and all its elements is a sine qua non of intensification. The standard of planning must be further improved. Our plans must be sufficiently flexible to respond to changes both in the external situation and in internal development. We intend to create the economic conditions needed to stimulate and induce enterprises to show initiative and enterprise and to promptly introduce and master the most modern techniques.

A more thorough substantiation of our economic decisions is impossible without a knowledge of actual efficiency and profitability. This depends first and foremost on the extent to which prices are capable of expressing real costs and of playing a controlling role.

It is therefore imperative to continue to improve the prices system in this direction in order to ensure that economic units' income more fully reflects the actual differences between them in the level of efficiency.

The organizational system and the system of enterprise management is being improved. As a result of 3 years' work 12 trusts have been dissolved. From these, as well as from the remaining trusts, 112 independent production units have been created or released. A total of 170 independent economic enterprises have been created in industry in this period. The results of the enterprises which have obtained independence have, as a rule, improved; and their collectives have shown greater initiative.

The structure of production looked as follows in Hungary's social sectors last year. State enterprises accounted for 93.1 percent of industrial output, and cooperatives accounted for 5.6 percent. Thus the socialist sector accounted for 98.7 percent and the private sector for a mere 1.3 percent. In agriculture last year 16.4 percent of total production came from state farms, 68.8 percent from agricultural cooperatives, including 16.8 percent from private [priusadebnyy] plots, and 14.8 percent from so-called subsidiary and personal [podsobnyy i lichnyy] plots. The state sector accounted for 62.1 percent of retail trade turnover and cooperatives accounted for 36.7 percent -- that is, the socialist sector accounted for 98.8 percent of total turnover with the private sector accounting for a mere 1.2 percent.

From the viewpoint of achieving the aims of economic policy and fulfilling managerial and organizational tasks, not only economic but also social factors are important. The role of the "human factor" is very much felt in both our achievements and our failures. The importance of initiative, creativity, skill, responsibility, good organization, order and discipline, and a socialist work ethic is increasing all the time.

Production democracy and socialist labor competition, which should seek primarily to ensure the achievement of the national economic plan's main aims, do much to strengthen the "human factor." Only in this way can we ensure that socialist society's development proceeds still more successfully, that consciousness increases, and that a socialist social climate and those features which help society to react more keenly and promptly to vital and new problems and spur people to action and to improve things are consolidated.

FRG BILL 'TO INTIMIDATE' ANTIWAR MOVEMENT

PM220803 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jul 83 First Edition p 5

[Yevgeniy Grigoryev "Commentator's Column": "Billy Clubs Instead of Arguments"]

[Text] A remarkable draft law has been drawn up in the depths of the West German ruling coalition. It was promulgated a few days ago in Bonn. Its coauthors are Interior Minister F. Zimmermann (CSU) [Christian Social Union], who is an associate of the not unknown leader of the West German rightwing F.-J. Strauss, and Justice Minister H. Engelhard (FDP) [Free Democratic Party]. If the Bundestag formally approves their schemes, the participants in any peace demonstration in the FRG will be at the mercy of the police. Woe betide anybody who does not heed their order "Disperse!" The punishment will be immediate arrest followed by imprisonment for up to 1 year or a sizeable fine.

Why are the authorities tightening the screw of antidemocratic repressions and restricting civil liberties? The answer is simple. "The emergence of this draft law," the newspaper UNSERE ZEIT writes, "is connected above all with the NATO politicians' growing fear of their own populations. After all, everyone is perfectly aware that there is no majority in the FRG in support of the 'arms upgrading' decision." Yes, this is indeed so. Not for nothing are the ruling circles on the Rhine rejecting the idea of a referendum on the question of the siting of U.S. missiles, put forward by the Green party. The FRG's biggest trade union -- the metal workers -- has demanded that the decision to deploy new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles be canceled. A similar appeal is contained in the Peace Manifesto-83 which has been signed by politicians and public figures known throughout the country. The antiwar movement is gaining more and more scope. A "hot fall" is in store.

From time to time representatives of the Bonn ruling coalition claim, with reference to the March Bundestag election results, that through them they obtained a "mandate" to site the missiles. However, it is known that many of those parties' voters were tempted primarily by the promises of a quick economic recovery, and are by no means advocates of "arms upgrading" but rather its opponents. The authors of the new draft law claim that it is intended to avert "violence" allegedly caused by antiwar march participants. They, however, are not the cause of violence, unlike those who, against the obvious will of the majority of the people, are trying to inflict on people the new U.S. nuclear missiles, which are first strike weapons and therefore weapons for unleashing nuclear war!

The Bonn advocates of "arms upgrading" have for many a year now been using all their powerful propaganda means in the attempt to convince the public of the "necessity" of this Pentagon and NATO plan. With this aim they have done their utmost to paint the bugaboo of the "Soviet threat". And all to no avail, because there are not and cannot be any sensible arguments in favor of a new round of the nuclear arms race in Europe which the NATO supporters are trying to start up. And when there are no arguments, the argument of the "policeman's billy" is resorted to. Bonn is trying to intimidate millions of citizens and stop them from expressing their antimissile will. This is the purport of the new draft law. Whether it will help is another question.

WEST GERMAN COMMUNIST PARTY OFFICIAL IN MOSCOW

PM241412 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jul 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Friendly Meeting"]

[Text] K.H. Shroeder, member of the German Communist Party [DKP] Presidium and Board secretariat, was in Moscow from 18 through 20 June at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

He had a talk with V. V. Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee International Department on questions of interest to both parties.

The meeting took place in the spirit of the fraternal friendship characteristic of mutual relations between the CPSU and the DKP.

MARCHAIS ADDRESS AT PCF MEETING CITED

PM211247 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jul 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Among the Fraternal Parties": "Acting in Favor of Peace"]

[Text] Paris, 20 Jul -- Addressing a meeting of French Communist Party [PCF] federation and section activists from the Paris region at the PCF Central Committee, Georges Marchais, PCF secretary general, has stressed the great significance of the meeting held in Moscow last week between CPSU and PCF delegations. The French and Soviet Communists, he said, stressed two points of paramount importance in their joint statement. First, our two parties state their resolve to oppose the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race.

The second important point is that "agreement, friendship, and cooperation between the French and Soviet peoples and between France and the USSR serve the cause of peace and security in Europe and throughout the world." They advocate developing good relations between France and the Soviet Union in all spheres.

Rebutting the right-wing forces' attacks on the PCF's stance on the question of France's nuclear forces, G. Marchais stressed the prime need to proceed from realities: There can be no end to the arms race and no disarmament without a balance of forces. It is regrettable but it is the case that neither the Western countries nor the Warsaw Pact members will disarm at the risk of weakening their own position.

In that case, should the French deterrent forces be taken into account or should one pretend that they do not exist? The answer arises of its own accord: France is a member of the North Atlantic alliance and as such must fulfill the obligations that ensue from that. Furthermore, in signing the Williamsburg statement, the president of the republic agreed to the definition of the Western countries' security as something "indivisible" which should be "viewed on a global basis." Can one really believe that it would be possible to say to the United States: "You can count on us in case of need" and at the same time say to the USSR: "You have no right to consider us as belonging to one side or the other"? To state that the French nuclear deterrent forces must be taken into account within the framework of that necessary calculation is simply to take account of reality, the PCF secretary general stressed.

'RESPONSIBILITY' FOR USSR-PORTUGAL RELATIONS NOTED

LD260305 Moscow in Portuguese to Portugal 2000 GMT 25 Jul 83

["Portugal Today" feature; commentary by Eduard Kovalev]

[Text] Good evening dear listeners. In Lisbon a few days ago Prime Minister Mario Soares, replying to a question from the TASS correspondent, advocated the development of inter-state relations between Portugal and the USSR.

Such statements by the head of the Portuguese Government cannot but evoke a keen and positive response on our part for, since the April revolution brought down the 50-year-old fascist dictatorship, the USSR has always advocated -- and continues so to do -- the development, expansion, and deepening of relations with your country, especially in view of the fact that during the first stage of the revolution Portugal's democratic forces brought about major progressive changes.

It was no fault of ours that relations between our countries, both political and in the economic spheres, should subsequently have been virtually put on ice as the right-wing forces became more active and the influence of pro-imperialist circles in Portuguese politics became more marked. Obviously the responsibility for this trend falls to the various Portuguese governments formed on the basis of bourgeois parties. In the last few years such governments opted for total subordination of their country and its policies to the interests of NATO and of the bloc's main partner, the United States.

The deliberate alignment with the general anti-Soviet and anti-communist policy of NATO led the Democratic Alliance's center-right governments to take steps that limited the relations between Portugal and the USSR. The cultural agreement between the two countries was abrogated; normal exchanges between social organizations were affected; there was even a time when a veritable wall of visa refusals was erected to prevent Soviet citizens from visiting Portugal. Unfortunately this wall has not been brought down to date. We have just heard of the refusal of visas for a Soviet youth delegation that was to take part in an international peace rally in the town of Troia, Portugal.

However we, the Soviet people, have never confused the Portuguese people, their democratic forces, their attitude toward us, with the stand of the reactionaries and extreme right-wing circles who serve the interests of world imperialism. We the Soviet people know full well that the Portuguese workers, the Portuguese democrats, have not desisted from the notion of cooperating with the USSR; that they hold in high regard the USSR's endeavors in the cause of strengthening and expanding detente, of bringing about disarmament, and of seeking peace and neighborly relations among states. The USSR has seen abundant evidence that this is so and has always scrupulously abided by its undertakings under our agreements with Portugal -- as with all foreign countries. This applies equally to trade, economic, and cultural relations with your country.

Now Prime Minister Mario Soares says that his government is interested in developing contacts with the USSR and other socialist countries regardless of social and political differences. The prime minister stated that the present government wishes to work without any limitations whatsoever on the basis of the agreements signed between our countries since the April (1974) Revolution. These are positive-sounding words. For our part we can say that our countries have indeed a wide scope for action before them. We could successfully develop mutually advantageous trade and economic cooperation; we could also further expand tourist exchanges; we could resume sport, cultural, and scientific exchanges on a broad basis; finally, and also perfectly possibly, there is the prospect of cooperation in the cause of strengthening peace and detente, and of establishing a climate of mutual understanding and neighborly relations.

However I would like to point out that in politics what determines the true meaning of statements by any given government or politician is, first and foremost, the concrete actions that follow. With this regard the Portuguese Government has a broad scope for acting towards the establishment of good relations between our countries. We would like to be able to expect the distance between intentions and actions to be the shortest possible, particularly bearing in mind what has just happened concerning the visas for the Soviet youth delegation. Thank you very much dear listeners, until another opportunity.

ISRAEL'S ARENS, SHAMIR TO HOLD TALKS IN U.S.

LD251233 Moscow TASS in English 1117 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Washington July 25 TASS -- TASS correspondent Alexandr Lyutiy reports:

"New joint steps" of Washington and Tel Aviv in Lebanon will be coordinated in the course of the talks due to be held here by the Defense Minister of Israel Moshe Arens and the Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir who arrive here this week, the press reports. They will discuss the situation in the Middle East and the bilateral relations.

The U.S. and Israel are going to consolidate their military presence in Lebanon and to turn it into a springboard for aggressive actions in the Middle East. Israel announced recently, obviously with the knowledge and connivance of Washington, the "redeployment" of its troops on the Lebanese territory with the aim to strengthen its positions and actually to divide that country.

At the same time, the Reagan administration is planning to sharply increase the strength of U.S. contingent included in the "multinational force" in Lebanon. Washington and Tel Aviv believe that all these steps will serve as another instrument for bringing pressure to bear on Syria which firmly opposes the U.S. Israeli conspiracy.

The visit of Tel Aviv's emissaries will be held at the time when the notorious "Middle East initiatives" of Washington designed to cover up U.S. conniving with the Israeli aggressive actions in that region, have been deadlocked. Most Arab countries strongly denounced the policy of capitulatory deals which Washington tried to impose upon them. The signing of the so-called "Lebanese-Israeli agreement" under the aegis of Washington, which in fact constitutes the infringement upon the sovereignty of Lebanon and the violation of its territorial integrity, aroused especially great indignation in the Arab world. According to WASHINGTON POST, the administration is trying to revive the "peaceful process" with the help of frenzied diplomatic activity.

During the recent talks in Washington between the leaders of the U.S. Administration and the President of Lebanon Amin al-Jumayyil, the White House announced the removal from his post of Philip Habib, special representative of the U.S. President on the settlement of the Middle East crisis and the appointment to this post of the President's Deputy National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane. According to WASHINGTON POST it is noteworthy that Israel praised this appointment. McFarlane is setting out for Israel next week.

'TENSE' SITUATION PROMPTS AL-JUMAYYIL U.S. VISIT

PM251032 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by own correspondent Ye. Korshunov: "The President Travels to Washington"]

[Text] Beirut -- The Lebanese news media report the departure of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil for the United States and point out the sudden change in the date of the visit.

A. al-Jumayyil flew to Washington 4 days earlier than planned. It is reported that during President al-Jumayyil's forthcoming meetings with President Reagan and senior representatives of the U.S. Administration they will discuss Lebanon's political, military, and economic problems and Washington's participation in their solution. En route Al-Jumayyil stopped off in France where he met with King Husayn of Jordan.

As is known, the Lebanese domestic political situation has deteriorated sharply of late in connection with Tel Aviv's intention to redeploy some of its forces on Lebanese territory, in particular to withdraw them from the mountain region of Ash-Shuf and the environs of the city of 'Alayh. The leaders of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), whose support comes from these regions, state that they will not allow the Lebanese Army into them until national concord is reached in the country and firm guarantees are obtained that the Lebanese Government will not contribute to the establishment of a right-wihg forces' dictatorship in the mountains. It is believed that the PSP actually has the power to do this and it has enough weapons, including heavy weapons.

The situation is also tense in Beirut's southern suburbs, populated by Shiites, who are represented by the influential "Amal" organization whose leadership has recently been displaying increasingly active solidarity with the PSP. In turn, the traditional leaders of North Lebanon, former President S. Franjiyah and former Prime Minister R. Karami are in active opposition to the government and the Lebanese-Israeli agreement signed on 17 May under pressure from Washington and Tel Aviv. Syria and the PLO say that the withdrawal of their forces from Lebanese territory is conditional on the annulment of this agreement and the unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli occupiers from Lebanon.

The Beirut papers have been constantly writing in recent weeks about the deadlock which U.S. diplomacy finds itself in in Lebanon. Certain circles in Beirut are hoping that A. al-Jumayyil's visit to Washington will be the "turning point" in the development of events and in the solution of Lebanon's very important problems. It is in this context that they view the bringing forward of the American-Lebanese summit meeting.

SOVIET JOURNALIST GRANTS INTERVIEW ON LEBANON

NC221328 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 18 Jul 83 pp 46-50

[Interview with Igor Belyayev, head of the Foreign Policy Department of LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, by MONDAY MORNING -- both questions and answers submitted in writing--date and place not given]

[Text] Question: How do you view Lebanese-Soviet relations now that American and other Western troop contingents are stationed in Beirut and the U.S.-Sponsored Lebanese-Israeli agreement has been signed?

Answer: I will begin by answering the second part of your question. It is believed in the Soviet Union that currently the United States and Israel continue to ignore the vitally important interests of the Arab countries in the Middle East. One of these countries is Lebanon. The signing of the said agreement could, in fact, be described as an act of downright violence.

What is actually taking place? Lebanon is being torn to pieces in front of everyone's eyes. It was forced at gunpoint to agree to these capitulatory accords with Israel. Surely, not all of them have been made known to the public. People may object and say that Lebanon is the master of its own territory and its own vitally important interests and therefore the very fact of the signing of the agreement, its endorsement by the Lebanese Government, and ratification by the Lebanese Parliament surely are an internal affair of Lebanon, which is not to be discussed or put to doubt. This is quite true, but surely one can have one's own opinion on the matter.

Hardly had I learned about the signing of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement when I recalled its classical forerunner -- the Munich collusion. Prior to Czechoslovakia's dismemberment in 1938, President Benes was also forced to sign an agreement.

The agreement itself was furnished with every legal attribute, but it was quite clear to everyone at the time that it was nothing but an act of undisguised collusion between certain West European powers and Hitler's Germany. And when the Second World War ended and justice was reinstated as a result of the victory won over fascism, the Munich agreement was proclaimed null and void.

I am convinced that a similar fate awaits the Israeli-Lebanese agreement, too. Quite obviously it goes against the law and is of a fettering nature. Incidentally, this qualification is generally accepted in international law. As you have pointed out in your question, Lebanon agreed to the deployment of American and other Western troop contingents in Beirut and to some other steps. Of course, this is also an internal matter of the Lebanese people. The Soviet Union cannot interfere and does not interfere in this matter. However, I would like to express my viewpoint on this point, too.

Let us recall that the appearance of American and West European troops in Lebanon in August last year was brought about by the need to ensure peace in Beirut when, guided by humanistic considerations, the Palestinian fighters pulled out of the city.

The reason for the appearance of the aforementioned contingents in September 1982 was the seizure of West Beirut by Israeli troops. In other words, the presence of the said contingents was to have been temporary only. President Reagan, however, intends to make American military presence in Lebanon permanent. I think this is a factor that negatively affects the situation not only in Lebanon, but also in the entire Middle East, and is doing great harm to all Arabs.

As for Lebanese-Soviet relations today, I think they are quite normal. There are no disputable questions between our countries. I think there is much scope for the further development of Lebanese-Soviet relations and that this fact should be made use of provided, of course, there is goodwill and a desire on both sides. I think the Soviet Union has both.

Question: The Soviet Union has criticized the Lebanese-Israeli troop-withdrawal agreement as affecting the sovereignty of Lebanon, demanding instead the unconditional withdrawal of Israeli, Syrian, and Palestinian troops. In view of the fact that Israel will hardly pull out its troops unconditionally and also taking into account that the Arabs are militarily not strong enough to force Israel to withdraw, what practical alternative to the agreement would you suggest?

Does Moscow believe that the continued Israeli occupation of a third of Lebanon's territory is preferable to the agreement concluded last May?

Answer: In your question you stress that the Soviet Union's criticism of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement on the withdrawal of foreign troops is based on the fact that it affects Lebanon's sovereignty. But isn't this really so? Furthermore, you said that the Soviet Union demands the unconditional withdrawal of Israeli, Syrian, and Palestinian troops instead. Here you are dealing with a very sensitive side of the actions of Lebanon as an Arab country. But this again is an internal affair of Lebanon.

As for the Soviet Union's demand for the unconditional withdrawal of Israeli, Syrian, and Palestinian troops, I would like to emphasize here that whenever the matter concerns Israel, it concerns an aggressor. After all it was not Lebanon that attacked Israel on June 6, 1982, but the other way round.

The Security Council and other UN bodies have adopted numerous resolutions regarding Israel's aggression, the occupation of a considerable part of Lebanese territory, and Israel's actions in Lebanon. The Soviet Union has never bracketed [as published] the aggressor and his victim, Israel and Arab countries and, in particular, Syria, and also the PLO. To my mind, it would be logical first to demand the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon, and then also the pullout of the Syrian and Palestinian contingents. But the order of priority is a special problem. Incidentally, I think that in this respect a decision of the Arab League would be necessary.

You assert that Israel is hardly to be expected to pull out its troops unconditionally, but this is something that has to be worked for at all possible levels, including the United Nations.

You say that the Arabs are not strong enough. I do not agree with you, for in the United Nations Organization you have enough allies and friends to be able to continue struggling for the withdrawal of the Israeli troops by political means.

You ask about a possible alternative to the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. I believe that such an alternative does exist. It is an alternative that will not be easy to achieve, i.e., an equitable, just agreement with Israel within the framework of a Mideast settlement. Nor a separate deal dictated to Lebanon under American pressure, but an overall settlement with the participation of all the interested parties, including the PLO. Otherwise, the agreement will continue to harm both the Lebanese and all Arabs, in general.

Incidentally, Moscow regards the continuation of the Israeli occupation, no matter what part of Lebanon it involves, as a continued crime. And this crime -- I must say it is not the first one committed by Israel in the Middle East -- cannot go on forever.

Question: Western observers assert that the Soviet Union is against the Lebanese-Israeli agreement only because Moscow intends to block any peaceful process carried out under U.S. aegis in isolation from the USSR. What would you say on this score?

Answer: You have quite justly said that Western observers keep heaping up mountains of lies about the Soviet Union's stand regarding the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. However, it would not be right to say that Moscow intends to block any peaceful process carried out under U.S. aegis. If tomorrow Washington were to propose a really just settlement of the Mideast issue which would take into account the interests of all sides, there would be no reason to object to it. But the Americans are not going to propose any such settlement and you know this quite well.

As for the Soviet Union, its settlement plan is a positive one. The USSR's role in the Middle East, a region that is adjacent to our borders, cannot be reduced to passive onlooking only. Our country has advanced just principles for a political settlement, including the proposal to convene an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all interested sides, including the PLO. They are well known to the whole world.

Today the United States and Israel and the ones who are creating real obstacles in the way of a Mideast settlement. The only thing that can bring peace to the Middle East is a settlement which, instead of imperialist arbitrariness and unpunished actions by Israel, would lead to the liberation of all the occupied Arab territories and would ensure the establishment of an independent Arab Palestinian state. Of course, much demands on the Arab countries themselves and on how united they are in the struggle against Israeli and American aggression.

Question: Do you agree with those who say that the deadlock in Lebanon and the entire Middle East is a result of rivalry between the super-powers and that only mutual understanding between the USSR and the USA could restore peace in Lebanon? What in your opinion are the chances for such a mutual understanding?

Answer: I do not agree with the allegation that the deadlock in Lebanon, as well as in the whole of the Middle East, is the result of rivalry between, as you put it, "super-powers" and that only mutual understanding between the USSR and USA might bring peace back to Lebanon. I think that it is up to the Lebanese to say the decisive word or, to be more precise, to Lebanon and other Arab countries having influence on the situation in your country.

As for rivalry or mutual understanding between the USA and the Soviet Union in the region, it is quite obvious that mutual understanding between the two great powers would do much for the attainment of peace in Lebanon, as well as in the entire Middle East. The fulfillment of the provisions of the well-known Soviet-American communique of October 1, 1977 on the settlement of the Middle East conflict could become the first step towards such mutual understanding. It is under Israeli pressure that the United States, to this day, keeps blocking the implementation of the provisions of the above-mentioned document. This obviously does not benefit the establishment of a lasting peace in the Middle East.

Question: Moscow and Damascus have declared that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement is worse than Camp David. If this is so, how would you explain the substantial support or at least lack of opposition on the part of most of the Arab countries to this agreement?

Answer: It is true that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement is worse than the Camp David accords. It is not consistent with the law, for it has been concluded in the extreme conditions of Israel's continued occupation of Lebanon.

You argue that the agreement enjoys substantial support, or at least that there has been no opposition to it on the part of most Arab countries. If I were you, I would not make haste with such assertions. Let us wait for the next Arab summit conference and the final stand which the conferees will take there vis-a-vis the Israeli-Lebanese agreement.

Question: What in your opinion is behind the struggle between the Maronites and Druzes in the mountainous part of Lebanon? How dangerous is this struggle for the future of Lebanon as a united, independent nation?

Answer: I believe that no small role in the struggle between the Maronites and Druzes in mountainous Lebanon is played by Israeli provocations and schemes. This struggle is naturally very dangerous for the future of Lebanon as a united, independent nation.

I know that certain quarters in Israel are hatching plans of isolating the Druze community into a kind of special entity or even a small state formation. This is an example of how Israel is "fulfilling" the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. This is why the assertion that Lebanon is being torn to pieces now is very much to the point.

Question: What stand will Moscow take if Israel attacked Syrian troops in the Al-Biqa' Valley? Will the USSR help Syria withstand the aggression if the attack is effected on Lebanese territory only? If this does happen what form will Soviet aid take? Do you believe that Syrian-Israeli clashes in the Al-Biqa' Valley would spill into the territories of Syria and Israel as well?

Answer: It is impossible today to offer any scenario of actions by the Soviet Union in case of an Israeli aggression against Syria. The Syrian-Soviet Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation has an article providing for consultations in the event of an agression against Syria. This, in fact, is the main thing that has to be borne in mind when we speak of the Soviet Union's stand with regard to the threats addressed to Syria. Syria is the target of pressure only because it is strengthening its defenses and pursuing a principled policy in Mideastern affairs.

Claims that many thousands of Soviet military personnel are at present in Syria are ill-intentioned exaggerations. Syria has set up new anti-aricraft defense systems. I want to specially stress the world "defense".

Our experts help the Syrian military in mastering them. That is all. As for the areas of their deployment, this is an irrelevant question.

You asked if there is a risk of Soviet involvement in the war in the Middle East. To my mind, the talk about such risk expresses the eagerness of certain American-Israeli circles to picture the Soviet Union as an enemy of peace in the region, something that does not at all conform with reality.

As for the presence of American military units in Lebanon, their actions in your country naturally intensify the threat to the future of peace in the Middle East.

Question: What could you say in connection with American charges that the USSR is influencing Syria to continue to reject the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and keep its troops in Lebanon?

Answer: All these charges are haywire. For many years the Soviet Union has been coming out against wars and tension in the Middle East. And the statements which you quote (those made by U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger and other American politicians) to the effect that any aggressive step taken by Moscow or "any instance of setting Syria" against Lebanon would produce a strong reaction in the United States, are nothing but an act of instigation.

SYRIAN PRIME MINISTER ON ARAB-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP

LD251716 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 25 Jul 83

[From the Vremya Newscast]

[Text] Our correspondent has met with Abd ar-Ra'uf al Kasm, prime minister of the Syrian Arab Republic, in Damascus. This is what he said in the interview for the Vremya program:

[Begin al-Kasm recording in Arabic with superimposed translation] Our country is experiencing a difficult period at present. We are being forced to mobilize all our forces to oppose the conspiracy of imperialism and Zionism. This conspiracy is not new. Of late, however, it has acquired an exceedingly dangerous nature. Its principal goal is to liquidate the progressive Syrian regime. Our people, 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm says, have, together with the whole Arab nation, come to the defense of the just cause of the Arabs who are struggling for the liberation of the Israeli-occupied territories and the attainment of a stable peace in the Near East region. Nor shall we give up our struggle.

The forces of imperialism and zionism shall not succeed in intimidating us.

After all our friends are with us, above all the great Soviet Union. The USSR is making enormous efforts to maintain international security, the prime minister continues. Of great significance for universal peace is the consolidation of Arab-Soviet friendship. This friendship is a mighty barrier in the way of the perfidious designs of American imperialism and Israeli Zionism, which threaten Syria, among others, with war.

We are against war, but we support a peace that is just and fair. In this connection, Syria declares once again its complete support for the well-known proposals made by the Soviet Union for an all-embracing settlement in the Near East. [end recording]

In conclusion, the prime minister of the Syrian Arab Republic conveyed a cordial greeting from the people of his country to the friendly Soviet people and all Soviet working people.

LIBYANS PRESENT STATEMENT ON CHAD TO UN COUNCIL

LD260651 Moscow TASS in English 0545 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] New York July 26 TASS - A statement of the People's Bureau for External Relations of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has been distributed as a document of the U.N. Security Council. The document points to the serious character of the recent pronouncements of representative of the present-day regime in Chad, containing territorial claims to Libya, and to the aggressive preparations at its southern frontiers. These actions are taking place against the background of the presence in Chad of the troops from the United States, France, and Zaire and deliveries of various weapons and ammunition to the Hissein Habre regime by those countries. "The foreign involvement in the conflict in Chad creates a threat to peace, secruity, and territorial integrity of Libya", the statement stresses. The People's Bureau for Libya's External Affairs warns about the consequences of this imperialist plan of aggression against the peoples of Libya and Chad and points out that Libya reserves the right to take steps that would enable to thwart this plan.

USSR-EGYPT FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY MEETS 21 JUL

PM251237 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Official Report"]

[Text] On 21 July an enlarged session of the "USSR-Egypt" friendship society was held in Moscow to commemorate Egypt's national holiday -- Revolution Day. It was attended by (KH.) S. Qandil, Egyptian charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR.

KUWAITI ASSEMBLY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

LD251754 Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 25 TASS -- A delegation of the National Assembly of Kuwait headed by its Chairman Muhammad Yousuf al-'Adasani has arrived in Moscow today on an official friendly visit at the invitiation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

SWAPO HEAD REJECTS 'STATE COUNCIL OF NAMIBIA'

LD211252 Moscow TASS in English 1148 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Text] Harare Jul 21 TASS -- The people of Namibia emphatically reject the attempts by the racist Pretoria regime of imposing a neo-colonialist "solution" to the Namibian problem, Sam Nujoma, the president of SWAPO, the South-West Africa People's Organization, said here to TASS correspondent Vladimir Paeglis.

Contrary to United Nations resolutions, he pointed out, the South African occupiers continue their stratagems designed to frustrate the granting of independence to Namibia, to partition it through the method of Bantustanisation and in the final analysis to retain their control over the country. This is precisely why the ocuupation authorities set up the so-called "State Council of Namibia". The task of this puppet body which includes the local stooges of the Republic of South Africa includes the drafting of Namibia's future "constitution" which has nothing in common with the interests of its people.

SWAPO'S reply to the latest farce of the racists, the SWAPO president said, will be intensification both of armed and political struggle for the achievement of genuine independence. The "State Council" trick will not fool the Namibians.

Concerning the role of the United Nations in a solution of the Namibian problem Sam Nujoma expressed SWAPO's readiness to render all-out assistance to the efforts by the world community for the implementation of Security Council Resolution Number 435. He emphasised that SWAPO would agree to ceasefire talks with the Republic of South Africa only on the basis of this document.

The leader of the Namibian patriots conveyed profound appreciation to the USSR and the other countries of the socialist community, to the "frontline" states and to all the progressive forces of the world for their solidarity with the people of Namibia and for their consistent support of the liberation struggle.

U.S. MILITARY EQUIPMENT ARRIVES IN CHAD

LD252052 Moscow TASS in English 1950 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] London July 25 TASS -- According to the REUTER news agency, shipment of military equipment made available by the Washington administration to the Hissein Habre Regime began to arrive in the capital of Chad today. According to Soumaila Mahamat, minister of information in the Ndjamena government, first U.S. Air Force C-147 transport plane to land in Ndjamena brought in military motor vehicles and other equipment.

Another U.S. Air Force transport plane with military cargo abroad is expected in Ndjamena today. Washington is known to have decided to air lift 10 million dollars' worth of weapons and equipment to Chad.

U.S. AIMING FOR 'DIRECT MILITARY CONFLICT' IN C.A.

LD251443 Moscow TASS in English 1402 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 25 TASS -- TASS commentator Leonid Ponomarev writes: The Reagan administration is stepping up its overt and covert interference in Central America in a bid to topple the Nicaraguan government and rout Salvadoran patriotic forces. The U.S. mass media are issuing forth reports which indicate that the Reagan government is out to bring about a direct military conflict in the region with the participation of U.S. Armed Forces. Speaking in an ABC television show, Senator Christopher Dodd said that a U.S. task naval forces was on its way to Nicaraguan shores. According to the senator, that was a threatening gesture which could not be described otherwise than an attempt at pursuing a policy of indimidation in the region.

The United States plans to hold large-scale military maneuvers in Central America and the Caribbean next month. Judging by their scope and duration, they will in essence be preparations for military operations against a number of Central American countries.

Assessing Ronald Reagan's actions and his policy of crude military and political pressure in Central America, Congressman Michael Barnes, chairman of the Subcommittee for Inter-American Affairs of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said, with good reason, that when the United States was sending troops out for five or six months under the guise of military maneuvers, that was no longer maneuvers but a long-term deployment of armed forces in the region.

The Pentagon is also going to more than double the number of its advisers in El Salvador and order them to "accompany in battle" the units of the undemocratic regime which they will be training. This means that in fact they will command combat operations against patriotic Salvadoran forces and be involved in them directly. The Reagan administration, according to the newspaper THE NEW YORK TIMES, is also preparing for a substantial increase in the scale of the CIA's secret operations in Central America, the largest in scope since Vietnam war. It is also reported from Washington that Reagan has endorsed a plan of the possible putting of Nicaragua in a "naval quarantine".

U.S. State Department spokesman are claiming, against the backdrop of these and other U.S. actions hostile to Central American countries, that the Reagan administration is still "committed to a political settlement" of the crisis in that region. But Reagan is paying only lip service to peace, while clearly provoking war in fact. It is no chance that both in Congress and in other political circles of the U.S. capital it is now being also that "the ghost of the Vietnam adventure" is showing more and more clearly through Reagan's actions. His provocative policy is arising profound popular concern all over Central America. This has found reflection, in particular, in the peace initiatives of the leaders of the states united in the "Contadora Group" as well as in the "Caracas declaration" adopted at festivities marking the bicentenery since the birth of Simon Bolivar. Embodied in them is the desire for a peaceful and fair settlement of the Central American crisis. This crisis has not come as a result of the "intrigues of Marxism" invented by Reagan. It is a result of the tragic position of the broad popular masses of the region as well as of the interventionist policy of U.S. imperialism which is trying to throttle the national liberation movement of patriotic revolutionary forces.

U.S. ROLE, 'WAR' IN CENTRAL AMERICA SCORED

LD231805 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 23 Jul 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The U.S. interference in the internal affairs of the countries of Central America is the theme of a commentary by political observer Vitaliy Kobysh.

[Begin recording] Good day, comrades, American warships are proceeding to the Caribbean at full speed. One of the destinations of their voyage is the coast of El Salvador, while another -- the main destination -- is Nicaragua. The composition and size of this naval formation is similar to the one sent by the British Government to the Falkland Islands. The analogy does not end there. Everything speaks of the fact that the intentions of the American armada are the same as those of the British one. First there is the intention of intimidating and displaying force, which Washington speaks about openly at the present time. Then, as events develop, there is the intention of direct military intervention, which it prefers not to mention for the time being.

Irrespective of what is or is not being said in the American capital, the United States is taking a direct role in the military actions in El Salvator against that tiny, tormented, and suffering country. Washington is waging an undeclared war against Nicaragua and using former mercenaries of the criminal, Somoza, and its own servicemen who are acting in the guise of military advisers. Now it is making ever greater and more open use of its puppet, Honduras. Honduran soldiers are not simply being set upon free Nicaragua, their actions are being directed by Americans. It has already been reported that gunfire from Honduran ships upon Nicaraguan border launches in the Gulf of Fonseca is being corrected from onboard American missile frigates. U.S. military aircraft are constantly cruising over the territory of Nicaragua.

This is a war, but one should not be misled in one respect. The war is being waged not only against El Salvador and Nicaragua. It is a war by American imperialism against all the peoples of Central America.

In the United States and other Western countries there has of late been much talk about the fact that this war could turn into a second Vietnam for the United States. It seems to me that it has already become this. As was once the case in Vietnam the people there want to be the masters of their land and they do not want to die of hunger, disease, and social injustice. Just as in Vietnam during the sixities and the seventies the American masters are responding to this in only one way: They are killing. They are doing this killing, of course, while speaking over and over again about the threat of communism, the Russian peril, and so forth. All this has already occurred in the past and is well-known. They want to kill the Nicaraguans because they have attained freedom, and the Salvadorans and the inhabitants of other Central American republics because they are striving for freedom. These are the harsh and irrefutable facts. In short, the gist of the matter is that Washington does not know how to set about solving the explosive and deteriorating problems of El Salvador and other Central American republics and does not know how to cope with the free people of Nicaragua except by killing. But one can not kill everyone. There is a dead impasse here, and Washington's policy comprises a real and grave threat to America.

NICARAGUA SOLIDARITY MEETING CRITICIZES U.S.

LD221312 Moscow TASS in English 1006 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] Managua July 22 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Trushin reports: The process of socio-economic transformations started by the Sandinista people's revolution four years ago serves as an example to all the oppressed peoples in the struggle against imperialist interference, for freedom and independence, says a final document of the second international meeting of Solidarity With the Nicaraguan People. The meeting, attended by more than 200 delegates from Western Europe, Canada, the USA, and Latin America, was held under the slogan "For Peace, Against U.S. Intervention in Central America."

Having analysed the situation in the region, the participants in the forum came to a conclusion that the main responsibility for the creation of the explosive situation in this part of the world is borne by the Reagan administration. We firmly reject, the document stresses, the U.S. Administration's thesis that Nicaragua and other countries pose a threat to the security of the USA. On this plea Washington propaganda is trying to deceive the world public opinion while the Central Intelligence Agency is arming and financing Somozist counterrevolutionary bands which have been assigned the task of overthrowing the Sandinista regime.

The delegates to the forum in Managua approved the Nicaraguan Government's new peace proposals aimed at settling the crisis in Central America, and supported Nicaragua's call to conclude a bilateral non-attack pact with Honduras. They condemned the escalation of the aggressive actions of the White House with which Israel increasingly converges. Tel Aviv accounts for up to 60 percent of the entire military aid to the dictatorial regimes of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, the document points out.

U.S. NICARAGUAN POLICY, REAGAN SPEECH HIT

LD242330 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 24 Jul 83

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Stanislav Kondrashov]

[Text] Now, comrades, let us turn to another of those hotspots to which I referred at the beginning: Central America, primarily Nicaragua, where on 19 July, the fourth anniversary of the Sandinista Revolution was celebrated. In the Nicaraguan town of Leon a 200,000-strong meeting took place. And in Washington, on the same day, the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress met in a rare secret session. There have only been three such secret sessions in the past 153 years. On the agenda: What is to be done about Nicaragua? Should money continue to be allocated to the CIA for the overthrow of the Sandinista Government? In short, is the Nicaraguan revolution to be suppressed or not? Not a very festive question.

In Cancun, Mexico, the presidents of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama published, at about the same time, a declaration containing proposals for a solution of the problems of Central America. Washington would have liked to secure the support of these prestigious representatives of Latin America. But the thrust of the declaration was against North American armed intervention and for a political solution to the disputed problems.

The Sandinista leadership of Nicaragua supported the main thesis of the Cancun declaration, which is: The use of force as an alternative to resolving the conflict will only make the situation in the region worse. The Nicaraguans agreed to the commencement of multilateral negotiations under the auspices of the Contadora Group, which includes representatives of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama.

Furthermore, they put forward a number of important practical initiatives, namely to put an end to military confrontation in Central America, and to this end, to immediately conclude a nonaggression pact between Nicaragua and Honduras. This is an important proposal because the possibility of war has become very real lately. Next, a total ban on deliveries of weapons to the belligerents in El Salvador. Many Western observers, including American ones, noted the importance of this proposal. The third proposal is to refrain from military support for any antigovernment forces in the region. Finally, the right of the peoples of Central American to self-determination is asserted as an immutable principle.

How were the Washington leaders behaving at this time? A naval squadron was sent to the Nicaragua region with the threat of a blockade or quarantine. It was announced that major U.S.-Honduran maneuvers would take place near the Nicaraguan frontier in August. This is new pressure. Armed bandits trained by the CIA are in any case already operating from Honduran territory against Nicaragua. According to the American figures, there are about 6,000 of them. But the Nicaraguans say there are 12,000. The population of Nicaragua is little more than one-hundredth that of the United States -- only 2.6 million. So if interventionists like those in Honduras were to turn up in Canada, with their numbers scaled up in proportion to the populations of Nicaragua and the United States, there would be from 500,000 to 1 million armed cutthroats on the United States' northern frontier. How would the Americans like that? In Nicaragua, about 600 bandits operating from Honduras have already been killed. On a U.S. scale, this figure would be in the tens of thousands.

This situation is just fantasy, you may say. So it is, but there is a lot about the actual situation which is fantastic. In population, Nicaragua has little more than one-hundredth of the U.S. figure, as I said. Its area is less than one-60th that of the United States. To illustrate this, let us temporarily remove Nicaragua from its actual place in the world and put in on the territory of the United States. [graphic shows map of Nicaragua overlaid on United States] That is how it would look. Comment is superfluous -- apart from one: Although there is not a single Nicaraguan-trained armed man in Canada or Mexico with the aim of perpetrating illegal bloody deeds on the territory of the United States, it is the Americans, the American imperialists, who, at full volume, say more, much more, than the Nicaraguans do about the American threats, diversionary actions and intervention. And on Capitol Hill, as I already said, the Congressmen assembled in secret session to decide whether to suppress the Nicaraguan revolution or to refrain. Isn't that fantastic? True, in Congress quite a number, not far short of a majority, doubt if they have the right to suppress it.

President Reagan, by the way, marked the Nicaraguan festival in his own typical way. He made a speech in Hollywood. Although this was Hollywood, Florida, not Hollywood, California, he included a few passages which might have come from the Californian one. The U.S. President -- would you believe it? -- proclaimed himself a supporter of the Nicaraguan revolution. But not of the revolution which did take place, but a real revolution, as he put it. The frivolous use of words is called demagogy. The present U.S. President suffers from this failing. Last June in the British Parliament he said that he was ready right then to stand in the front rank of antiwar demonstrations. And now, in his Hollywood speech, there he is lined up under the revolutionary banners of the Sandinistas, although he is considered the most conservative U.S. President for half a century.

SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM AUTHORIZES GROMYKO BUST

PM211407 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jul 83 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Bronze Bust Unveiled"]

[Text] Gomel, 17 Jul -- Here in the homeland of A.A. Gromyko, twice hero of socialist labor, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister, a bronze bust of the hero was unveiled in a ceremony today. It was erected in accordance with a USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree.

A rally devoted to this event was attended by party and Soviet workers and representatives of the city's public. It was addressed by A.A. Malofeyev, first secretary of Gomel party Obkom; A.P. Elman, a member of the CPSU since 1919; Hero of Socialist Labor P.T. Demchenko, fitter at the measuring instruments plant; L.S. Novoselov, first secretary of Vetkovskiy Raykom; and I. Talyuk, Student at the Belorussian Institute of Railroad Transport Engineers. N.N. Slyunkov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, took part in the ceremony.

RECENT LEADER APPEARANCES, ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Aliyev, Zimyanin Soiree

LD192102 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 19 Jul 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Excerpt] A solemn soiree devoted to the anniversary of Vladimir Mayakovskiy took place today in the Hall of Columns of the House of the Unions. In the presidium are Comrades Aliyev, Vorotnikov, Zimyanin; those active in literature and the arts; representatives of the public; and foreign guests. [shots of Vorotnikov, Aliyev, Zimyanin]

Dolgikh Attends Meeting

LD152140 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Jul 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] In the Hall of Columns of the House of Unions in Moscow, a festive session took place today devoted to Metallurgists' Day. In the presidium were [wide shot of presidium shown]: Comrade Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committe; Comrade Dymshits, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; leaders of a number of ministries and departments; leading workers in production; winners in socialist competition; representatives of the public.

Comrade Kazanets, minister of ferrous metallurgy, and Comrade Lomaki, minister of nonferrous metallurgy, delivered reports.

Kuznetsov Presents Awards

PM190953 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jul 83 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Presentation of Motherland Awards"]

[Text] V.V. Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, presented high motherland awards to a group of comrades in the Kremlin on 6 July.

Professor K.S. Silin, doctor of technical sciences and chief of a department of the USSR Ministry of Transport Construction All-Union Scientific Research Institute for Transport Construction, received the Order of Lenin and the Hero of Socialist Labor "Hammer and Sickle" gold medal. The Order of Lenin was awarded to Academician A.P. Aleksandrov, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; B.V. Bakin, USSR minister of installation and special construction work; A.F. Bogomolov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Academician V.I. Goldanskiy; and T.N. Khrennikov, first secretary of the USSR Union of Composers Board.

A.P. Tkachev, full member of the USSR Academy of Arts, received a USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium document conferring the honorary title of "USSR People's Artist."

V.V. Kuznetsov cordially congratulated the comrades on the receipt of the high awards and wished them new successes for the benefit of the motherland and for the sake of peace and happiness on earth. T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, also congratulated the awardees.

The awardees expressed heartfelt gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the Soviet Government, and Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, personally for the high assessment of their labor and gave assurances that they would devote all their strength, knowledge, and experience to the cause of fulfilling the tasks set the Soviet people by the CPSU.

PRAVDA VOSTOKA CATALOGUES RASHIDOV ACTIVITIES

GF181446 [Editorial Report] Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 8 July on page 1 reports that "a republic meeting held in Tashkent yesterday was dedicated to the tasks of the Uzbekistan internal affairs organs in light of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the May and November 1982 and the June 1983 CPSU Central Committee Plenums."

"The meeting was opened by Sh.R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee. Uzbek Interior Minister N.I. Ibragimov presented a report at the meeting. USSR Interior Minister V.V. Fedorchuk delivered a speech at the meeting."

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian on 9 July on page 1 reports that the workers of the cities and villages of Tashkent Oblast attended an obkom plenum held on 8 July. Obkom First Secretary M.M. Musakhanov presented a report.

"Sh.R. Rachidov, candiate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee, delivered a speech at the plenum."

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian on 12 July on page 1 reports that "The Tashkent Party Gorkom plenum, held yesterday, reviewed the results of the June 1983 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the tasks of the communists of the republic's capital emerging from its decisions and the speech of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

"Sh. R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee, delivered a speech at the plenum."

ZARYA VOSTOKA REPORTS ON SHEVARDNADZE ACTIVITIES

PM121033 [Editorial Report] Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian on 2 July on page 1 reports that "on 1 July E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, met and conversed with Academician A.P. Aleksandrov, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, who has taken part in a USSR and Georgian SSR Academy of Science joint jubilee scientific session to mark the Georgiyevsk Treaty bicentennial.

"In their conversation they touched on topical questions relating to further improving scientific research and the work of organizing all such research, to accelerating scientific and technical progress and forging closer links between science and the specific requirements of the country's national economy, and to increasing the effectiveness with which scientific achievements are applied in practice in the light of the decisions of the 26th party congress and the November (1982) and June (1983) CPSU Central Committee Plenums."

Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian on 2 July on page 1 reports that "The latest in a series of Georgian Communist Party Central Committee-sponsored lecture-seminars on current problems of Marxist-Leninist theory and communist building was held at the Georgian CP Central Committee on 1 July.

"The lecture-seminar was opened by its leader, E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee."

KUNAYEV VISITS KOKCHETAV OBLAST; MEETS OFFICIALS

LD191058 [Editorial Report] Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian at 1405 GMT on 14 July report that "Comrade Kunayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Kazakhastan Communist Party Central Committee, visited the Kokchetav Oblast. At the Zelenogorskiy, Voronovskiy, Zlatopolskiy, Pervomayskiy and Turumkayskiy Sovkhozes, at the (?Vkatyrpolskiy) Sovkhoz Technical colleges in Shchuchinsk Rayon, at the sovkhoz technical college of the oblast experimental station, at the (?Berendinskiy), (?Gaturin) and Lenin Sovkhozes of (?Berendinskiy) Rayon, at Kokchetavkiy Sovkhoz and at the No 47 stud farm in Kokchetav Rayon, he spoke to sovkhoz directors, secretaries of party committees, machine operators and livestock breeders. He viewed cereal and feed crops and showed interest in the preparation of harvesting machinery and the progress of feed provision.

"An enlarged meeting of the obkom bureau was held in Kokchetav today [14 July]. Comrade Kunayev, who was cordially received by the participants at the meeting, also spoke.

"He stressed the exclusive importance of the decisions of the June CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the program propositions and conclusions contained in the speech made by Comrade Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the plenum.

"Comrade Kunayev was accompanied on his tour of the oblast by Kuanyshev, first secretary of the Kokchetov Obkom, and by Moiseyenko, chairman of the Kokchetav Oblispolkom."

BOOK BY SOVIET PHILOSOPHER ATTACKS REVISIONISM

PM260847 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jul 83 p 2

[B. Zhirovov report on interview with Doctor of Philosophical sciences V.D. Skarzhinskaya, under the rubric "An Authoritative Opinion": "The Deluders of Young People"]

[Text] The opportunity to meet Doctor of Philosophical Sciences V.D. Skarzhinskaya was furnished by the publication of her latest book "Conspiracy Against the Future (Revisionism -- the Tool of Anticommunism in the Struggle for Young People's Minds)" [Zagovor Protiv Budushchego (Revizionizm -- Odudiye Antikhommunizma v Borbe Za Umy Molodezhi)] by the Molodaya Gvardiya Publishing House. But before discussing the book, a few words about the author.

At the age of 15 she left for the front to defend the motherland against the fascist plague. In the winter of 1942 KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA carried an article about the courageous young nurse Valya Skarzhinskaya. Later she became a political instructor, a commissar on a frontline hospital train, and military formation Komsomol official.

In the postwar years V.D. Skarzhinskaya has been engaged on another front -- the ideological front. There she continues to struggle against the enemies of socialism and Marxism-Leninism, whatever their guise.

"This book," V.D. Skarzhinskaya says, "is the result of much reflection on our turbulent epoch, on what will mark the not so distant end of the 20th century which has been rich in historic achievements, and what horizons lie in store for mankind in the upcoming 21st century. The prospects for the future are today the arena of sharp confrontation between socialism and capitalism.

"The anticommunists are waging an embittered struggle for the hearts and minds of young people, trying to lead them away from the revolutionary path, the path of creating a new society. The accomplices of anticommunism include revisionism.

"The revisionists, operating inside communist and workers' parties, pose as Marxists. They endeavor, by way of demagogy and lies, to undermine socialism from within, to disunite the revolutionary forces. As a rule, this is done under the guise of the development of Marxist teaching. Depending on from what positions this review is carried out, revisionism is described as right or 'left'.

"V.I. Lenin, in his article 'New Times, Old Mistakes Under a New Guise', has vividly characterized right and 'left' revisionism as two opportunistic currents in the workers' movement. Lenin characterizes revisionism from the right as 'petty-bourgeois reformism, that is, subservience to the bourgeoisie convered up by pious democratic and "social"-democratic verbiage and ineffective wishes,' and 'left' revisionism as 'petty-bourgeois revolutionaryism -- formidable, inflated, presumptuous as far as words go, but an empty shell in reality.'

"In our day right revisionism is trying to replace Marxism-Leninism, the only international teaching, by varieties of 'national Marxism.' It actually denies the general natural laws governing the transition from capitalism to socialism and the building of a socialist society. The opportunists glorify the spontaneity of social development and substitute reformism of one kind or another for the theory of the socialist revolution. They preach a qualitative diversity of models of socialism.'

"The disorientation of individual groups of young people in Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Poland and the role they played during the well-known events can be largely explained by the fact that rightist opportunist concepts had been presented to them as 'genuine Marxist concepts' pursuing the aim of 'improving socialism;' 'perfecting,' 'Democratizing,' and 'liberalizing' it; and so forth.' In the final analysis it all led to the elimination of the real socialist system.

"'Left' revisionism inflicts no less damage on the activity of young people than right revisionism. It guides them toward replacing the scientifically founded Marxist line of the revolutionary movement with political adventurism, petit bourgeois 'ultra-revolutionaryism,' and disregard for the true conditions of the class struggle, which condemns in advance any revolutionary action to failure.

"Thus at the end of the sixties and the beginning of the seventies when young people in the West were thirsting for radical action attempts were made to stupefy them with "ultraleftist' slogans: 'Revolution - Now!; 'Students -- the Detonator of the Revolution!; and so forth. The antiwar movement, on the other hand, was described as a 'pure waste of time.' It is not difficult to imagine the tremendous damage that could be done by this kind of demagogy today when a powerful movement to ban the siting of new U.S. nuclear missile weapons has gotten underway in West Europe. A considerable section of the participants in this movement are young people.

"International chauvinism now sides with revisionism. This kind of alliance is by no means accidental. After all, many 'distinguished' opportunists were leading proponents of Zionism in their time. Many right-wing social democrat leaders were noted for their Zionist orientation from the very moment when they started betraying the interests of the working class. This orientation persists even now.

"More than that. In recent years international Zionism has entered into the closest contact with revisionism.

"The 'Trojan Horse' tactics, that is, undermining socialism and all revolutionary force from within, which are being employed by present-day revisionism are an endeavor employing unfit means," V.D. Skarzhinskaya says in conclusion. "The present-day world is versed in the laws of the class struggle. V.I. Lenin has left us a reliable criterion which helps us to orient ourselves in the complex labyrinth of social phenomena: -- Who benefits? Using it as a guideline, we can clearly see that the revisionist tales about 'bad' and 'good' socialism, about 'rereading' Marx and so forth, objectively serve as a tool of imperialism in its subversive actions against the world of socialism and the forces of progress. It is our common duty -- in line with the demands of the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum decisions -- to develop the Soviet people's political vigilance, their uncompromising attitude to hostile views, and their ability to withstand the ideological subversion by the class enemy and the opportunist and revisionist attacks on real socialism."

COMPLETION OF SIBERIAN GAS PIPELINE REPORTED

LD251509 Moscow TASS in English 1541 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 25 TASS -- The builders of the Siberia-to Western Europe export gas pipeline completed the laying of the entire 4,451 kilometers of the world's longest pipeline today. It is to move Soviet natural gas to Western Europe.

This heavy-duty gas main, which is to carry 32 billion cubic meters of gas a year, was laid in less than 14 months. Not a single pipeline project in the Soviet Union has ever been completed in such a short time.

Over 4,000 kilometers of the line have already passed testing. An almost 1,500 kilometer-long section linking the world's largest gas fields at Urengoi and the Sverdlovsk region is already pumping Siberian gas to the users. The building of compressor stations along the pipeline is both in full swing and well ahead of schedule. The construction of the Siberia-to Western Europe gas pipeline is to be completed before this year is out.

Testing Nearing Completion

LD261303 Moscow TASS in Russian 0810 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 26 TASS -- Nobody else in the world practice managed to construct a 4,451 kilometer long gas pipeline in less than 14 months. The preterm construction of the world's longest Siberia-Western Europe gas pipeline is evidence of great experience, and high skill of the builders.

Along the pipeline from Asia to Europe, the builders coped with eternal frost areas, Siberian forests and bogs, Urals and Karpathian mountains, big rivers, numerous railways and highways. To lay the gas pipeline it was required to excavate almost 130 million cubic meters of soil. The total length of underwater passages reaches 200 kilometers.

It is interesting to note that more than half of the pipes were welded and laid into trenches in three winter months when the entire route of the gas pipeline was accessible to machinery.

The testing and adjusting operations are nearing completion. More than 4,000 kilometers of pipes stood the test well. Two sections of the route have already been connected to the single gas supply system of the country. The length of the functioning part of the export gas pipeline is nearing 2,000 kilometers. In the first half of August builders are planning to complete the tests of the whole route. The construction of the first two compressor stations of the gas pipeline are to be completed this month. The stations are provided with Soviet-made 25 megawatt gas pumping units.

This is the fourth transcontinental gas pipeline constructed in the USSR since the beginning of the current five-year period. Another two gas pipelines are planned to be driven from the world's biggest Urengoi gas deposit to the European part of the country before the end of 1985.

PROGRESS OF GRAIN, FEED HARVEST EVALUATED

PM251012 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 21 Jul 83 p 1

[N. Osychkin "Agricultural Review": "Grain From Threshing Floors Onto Elevators!"]

[Excerpts] Grain harvesting is proceeding along a broad front in the country. It is already underway in 13 republics. The efforts of farmers and all agro-industrial complex personnel are directed toward the early completion of work to a high standard, ensuring that none of the crop is lost, and fulfilling plans and pledges for the sale of grain and other produce to the state.

According to data from the USSR Central Statistical Administration, kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and interfarm enterprises had harvested 25.7 million hectares and threshed 20.5 million hectares of grain and pulse crops (excluding corn) by 18 July. In the last week grain harvesting has been completed over an area of more than 6.5 million hectares.

When introducing progressive methods of labor organization and promptly maneuvering equipment it is important to ensure that the field to threshing floor to elevator chain runs smoothly and to do everything possible to increase the rate of harvesting and grain procurement. This is precisely what farms in the Kuban are doing. With threshing drawing to a close, they have dispatched more than 2 million metric tons of grain. Harvesting and transport complexes are in the fields around the clock in Stavropol Kray. The tour-of-duty [vakhtovyy] method increases equipment productivity and enables machine operators to complete threshing within the next few days. Truck columns are meantime heading for the elevators. The kray has already sold more than a million metric tons of grain to the state.

Harvesting in the Russian Federation has now extended as far afield as the Central and Volga-Vyatka Regions. Some 11.8 million hectares of grain have been harvested in the RSFSR -- more than 17 percent of the sown area. Some 8.6 million hectares have been threshed -- 73 percent of the area harvested. The harvesting of grain crops is drawing to a close in the North Caucasus Region. More than half of the sown area has been harvested in Volgograd, Voronezh, and Belgorod Oblasts. In order to prevent crop losses every hour of fine weather must be made full use of and threshing must not be allowed to lag behind harvesting.

Farmers in the Ukraine have harvested more than 10 million hectares of grain -- more than half of the sown area. Some 13,000 harvesting and transport complexes are operating there. Many farms in southern rayons threshed grain crops in 8-10 days. In view of the unsettled weather machine operators in Kiev Oblast have adopted the differentation [razdelnyy] method. Mowers and pulse reapers are being used to harvest lodged and twisted stands, while mechanical rakes are used to turn rain-lodged windrows.

Some 1 million hectares have been harvested in Kazakhstan. The comprehensive method is being used in Chimkent and Alma-Ata Oblasts. Farms in Taldy-Kurgan Oblast making extensive use of tractor-trailer rigs for freighting purposes have already begun selling grain to the state. Harvesting and transport complexes are hard at work in the fields of Belorussia. In order to prevent losses, combines and trucks there are hermetically sealed. Harvesting in Lithuania is proceeding in accordance with hourly schedules. The automated "Urozhay" system is helping the republic's agronomists to clear bottlenecks.

Good harvests have been achieved by many farms in the Ukraine's central zone. The threshing and preparation of wheat, barley, and peas have been delayed there, however. Considerable quantities of grain have accumulated on threshing floors in Cherkassy, Kharkov, Khmelnitskiy and a number of other oblasts. The grain's moisture content is higher than prescribed norms and yet they are in no hurry there to put dryers into operation. This in turn results in schedules for grain deliveries to elevators being disrupted.

With a view to expediting harvesting and grain procurement, agroindustrial association councils, farm leaders, and specialists must efficiently maneuver equipment and machine operator cadres and ensure that reapers and combines are used on a two-shift and tour-of-duty basis and increase their output. At the same time, however, there are still cases of units standing idle on account of technical faults and the late dispatch of spare parts and fuel to rural areas. In particular, there were shortfalls in the amount of reserved diesel fuel and gasoline delivered in Rostov and Belgorod Oblasts in the first 10 days of July.

By performing the operations comprehensively at the same time as harvesting and procuring grain kolkhozes and sovkhozes are laying in feed stocks, creating seed reserves, and preparing the soil for winter sowing. Repeat and after harvest sowing has already been carried out over an area of 1.2 million hectares in the Ukraine and 600,000 hectares in the RSFSR. The country's cities and industrial centers have received 1.3 million metric tons of new potatoes and 2.6 million metric tons of other vegetables, and fruit and soft fruit shipments are being stepped up.

Through their shock work in the fields farmers are making a worthy contribution to the Food Program's implementation.

RSFSR Oblast Delays 'Alarming'

PM250934 Moscow ISVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 1

[Agricultural review by A. Ivashchenko: "Harvest on the Grain Fields and Green Meadows"]

[Excerpts] Usually, when the ears of grain are forming and ripening, the main efforts of the army of machine operators have been switched first to cutting the barley and then the areas sown to wheat. As for work on meadows and hayfields, here the tempo has slowed down. And as a result the stockraising units have failed to obtain sufficient winter feed stocks. Milk yields have dropped and weights have been reduced.

Now fundamental changes are taking place in feel procurement. The rule of being concerned for feed as though it were grain has become a gratifying feature of the pivotal year of the 5-year plan. It is also a good thing that these are not just loud words but a specific deed. Feed production has already been singled out as an independent sector almost everywhere. Highly qualified specialists and experienced machine operators armed with highly productive equipment are employed in it. Not only corn or soybeans but also perennial grass crops are now being cultivated on irrigated fields.

On both the country's grain fields and feed fields wide use is being made of work under the team contract method, when it is not the interim but the end results of labor, not simply the "gross quantity" of grain, hay, haylage, and silage but also their quality which are given pride of place...That is why the harvesting campaign on the grain fields and hay fields and meadows is now proceeding equally strenuously. IZVESTIYA and TASS correspondents are sending in on-the-spot reports one after another about the progress of the golden grain harvest and the green harvest.

The Stavropol Kray arable farmers have just achieved a great success. They have finished threshing wheat on an area of 1.5 million hectares and sent 1 million metric tons of grain to the elevators. During the forming period the grain fields here were "gripped" almost everywhere by protracted drought. Nonetheless rayons like Neftekumskiy and Levokumskiy Rayons are already selling grain over and above the annual target.

Unfortunately, in a number of places in the RSFSR matters on the meadows are alarming That applies primarily to the farms of Ivanovo, Kalinin, Kostroma, Yaroslavl, Kirov, and Kyubyshev Oblasts, and the Kabardino-Balkar and north Osetian ASSR's. Feed procurement here has been carried out with a long period of procrastination, work has been poorly organized, and the deadlines for procuring the best hay and haylage have been disrupted.

The USSR Council of Ministers Presidium commission on questions of the agroindustrial complex has leveled serious criticism at the leaders of the soviet and economic organs of these oblasts and outonomous republics. The situation here must be rectified immediately and all efforts and facilities must be mobilized for the green harvest, because time is hurrying by.

Harvest Machinery Ministries 'Lagging'

LD251902 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Today's scheduled meeting of the Commission for Agro-Industrial Complex questions of the Presidium of the USSR Council of Ministers heard a report by Comrade Mesyats, USSR Minister of Agriculture, on the progress of harvesting operations and grain procurement and on the fulfillment of tasks for supplying agriculture with materials and technical facilities.

It was noted that harvesting work is in progress in all union republics. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes are engaged in sale to the state of grain and other agricultural produce.

At the same time, the rate of harvesting and grain procurement remains low in a number of areas. A number of machine-building ministries are lagging behind with the supply of machinery, equipment and spare parts. The overhaul of harvesting machinery at kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Kostroma, Yaroslavl, Kirov and Pskov Oblasts has not yet been completed. The preparation of grain harvesting combines in Kazakhstan's northern oblasts is not satisfactory. It was noted that a number of union republics, krays and oblasts do not as yet pay the necessary attention to setting up feed bases.

The commission made it incumbent upon relevant ministries to take urgent measures, jointly with the councils of ministers of the union republics, aimed at completing preparation of all harvesting machinery and transport facilities, the material and technical base of grain receiving centers, and elevators, and at ensuring highly productive use of harvesting machinery.

RSFSR'S VOROTNIKOV CHAIRS SESSION ON LAND USE

PM221055 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 3

[Unnamed own correspondent report under the rubric "In the RSFSR Council of Ministers": "Tyumen Experience Approved"]

[Text] The presidium of the RSFSR Council of Ministers has discussed the question of the work experience of the Tyumen Oblast soviet and agricultural organs and kolkhozes and sovkhozes in amelioration work and the assimilation of new land for agricultural use.

The presidium noted with satisfaction that large-scale purposeful work in this sphere is under way in the oblast.

Its main directions are the stubbing, drainage, and recultivation of land, the clearing of tree stumps and groves from fields, doing away with small plots, the radical improvement of low-yield meadows and pastures with subsequent regrassing, and also the construction and maintenance of rural roads and improvement of the overall standard of arable farming.

A successful form of organization of amelioration work has been developed in the oblast, based on cooperation between kolkhozes and sovkhozes and land reclamation workers, under which the basic production unit is a joint, specialized, and highly mechanized detachment which operates the collective contract method.

This way of organizing the matter has made it possible to increase arable land on the oblast's farms by 95,000 hectares since 1980 and to radically improve meadows and pastures on an area of 170,000 hectares. The fields look well tended everywhere, and this has also affected favorably the assimilation of zonal farming systems.

It is important that the cost per hectare of improved land is relatively low -- R200-250, and the returns are quick and tangible. Without having the best climatic conditions among the oblasts of the Urals and West Siberia, Tyumen Oblast is now obtaining the highest yields and has secured the biggest increase in gross output in the past 2 years.

Bearing in mind the great importance of amelioration work as a highly effective and fully accessible means of establishing order on land and increasing the productivity of arable land, the presidium approved the experience of the Tyumen Oblast farmers and reclamation workers and made it incumbent on republican ministries and departments, autonomous republic councils of ministers, and krayispolkoms and oblispolkoms to draw up and implement measures ensuring the widespread dissemination of this valuable experience.

The presidium session also examined a number of other questions pertaining to the implementation of the Food Program.

The session was conducted by V.I. Vorotnikov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

PARTS SHORTAGES BLAMED ON PETROLEUM MINISTRIES

PM250842 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Jul 83 First Edition p 3

[A. Ivanov "Rejoinder": "Once Again About Belts"]

[Text] In the summer everyone in the countryside lives for the harvest. They rejoice at a good harvest, and grieve when there is a delay over harvesting. At this time a particularly strange sensation is aroused by a combine which has stood idle for a long time in the middle of a ripe grainfield. Everyone who drives past invariably stops and asks: "Why isn't the machine working?" This is not idle curiosity but real concern for the grain. It frequently happens that the machine operator merely spreads his hands: "I'm idle because of a trifling component."

"Indeed, a shortage of small but so essential components is frequently the reason for tractors, combines, and trucks standing idle," mechanic M. Frolkov reports in his letter from the settlement of Rossasno in Vitebsk Oblast's Dubrovenskiy Rayon. "A fan belt breaks, say, or a gasket, gland, or clutch plate goes out of commission, and you cannot imagine how much time kolkhoz specialists waste looking for them. Why doesn't the rayon administration of the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture [Goskomeselkhoztekhnika] have these spare parts?"

The same alarm as concerns mechanic M. Frolkov could be heard in the article "Although the Tractor Is in Good Order..." (PRAVDA 27 March). It pointed out that certain enterprises of the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry were in debt to farmers and had not coped with the plan for the dispatch of industrial rubber products.

The reply received from the ministry stated that "the questions raised in the article were examined at a conference with the participation of the directors of the enterprises which undersupplied industrial rubber products to organizations of the USSR Goskomselkhoztekhnika. The enterprises jointly with the association administration drew up measures to liquidate during April of this year the debts which had arisen. The administration of the Soyuzzezinotekhnika All-Union Production Association is monitoring the fulfillment of the measures."

An extremely brief and... rather vague reply. Why vague? The point is that the enterprises of the Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry planned to repay their debt to the Goskomselkhoztekhnika in April, but Deputy Minister M. Parfenov signed the reply to the Editorial Board on 3 May. Well, alright, the ministry workers were late replying. It can happen to anyone.

But here is the enigma. On 13 July L. Khitrun, chairman of the USSR Goskomselkhoztekhnika, sent V. Fedorov, USSR minister of the petroleum refining and petrochemical industry, a letter (not the first one, incidentally) pointing out that a number of industrial rubber products plants, including the Barnaul, Krasnoyarsk, Volzhskiy, Karaganda, and Saransk plants, and the Yaroslavrezinotekhnika Production Association failed to cope with the half-year plan for deliveries of fan and V-belts, rings, and frame glands to RSFSR, Ukrainian, Kazakh, Uzbek and Moldavian farms.

And yet, as stated in Deputy Minister M. Parfenov's reply, monitoring of their dispatch was established. What, then, is the worth of this monitoring and these promises if the list of components owed by plants of the Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry has not diminished but increased? We would like the words of the ministry's workers not to be at variance with their actions.

USSR TROOPS IN GDR EQUIPPED WITH NUCLEAR GUN

DW250707 Bonn DIE WELT in German 23-24 Jul 83 p 4

[Text] Munich -- The Group of Soviet Forces in Germany (GSFG) has been equipped with a new 155 mm gun of the SP285 type. The new gun has nuclear capability, which means it can fire nuclear ammunition of a low explosive effect. According to information from the GDR only the 34th GSFG artillery division stationed near Potsdam has been equipped with this gun mounted on top of a track chassis with a gun carriage in the rear.

Compared with the former 152 mm howitzer mounted on an armored gun motor carriage of the M-1973 type and the 122 am M-1974 type, the new gun has a longer barrel and thus a longer range and a higher kinetic energy at the muzzle.

OBITUARIES FOR SOVIET OFFICERS PUBLISHED

Maj Gen Parfenov

PM221406 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Jul 83 First Edition p 4

[Excerpts] Major General of Engineering Yevgeniy Danilovich Parfenov, deputy chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Main Directorate, has died suddenly.

His death took from our ranks a loyal son of the Soviet people, who devoted all of his conscious life to serving the motherland and the cause of the Communist Party, of which he had been a member since 1940.

Ye.D. Parfenov was born in Leningrad 6 January 1917.

N.F. Shestopalov, K.M. Vertelov, V.I. Bychenko, N.M. Popov, M.P. Klimov, V.I. Ivankov, S.A. Spirin, N.V. Chekov, M.V. Morkovin, A.A. Sazonov, K.I. Mukhin, A.G. Zhoromskiy, V.S. Grigorkin, I.P. Martynov, V.N. Kavanov, Yu.P. Fedorovich.

Lt Gen Grachev

PM191202 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jul 83 First Edition p 4

[Excerpts] Lieutenant General Nikolay Stepanovich Grachev, deputy chief of staff of the USSR Armed Forces Rear Services, has died after a serious illness. A participant in the Great Patriotic War who had devoted all his conscious life to selflessly serving the motherland and the cause of the Communist Party whose ranks he joined in 1949 has departed this life.

N.S. Grachev was born 25 march 1925 in the city of Kalinin.

S.K. Kurkotkin, V.I. Varennikov, P.I. Sysoyev, I.M. Golushko, V.P. Timonin, N.S. Rozhkov, G.T. Tarasov, F.I. Komarov, V.V. Nikitin, I.D. Isayenko, F.P. Petrov, Ye.I. Goldberg, V.G. Zaytsev.